



# ARAB TIMES

MINISTRY OF JORDAN  
SERIALS DIVISION



THURSDAY-FRIDAY, APRIL 12-13, 1990/RAMADAN 17-18, 1410 AH

## Hostages executed as Singh warns Pakistan

More troops for Srinagar; curfew continues

**SRINAGAR, April 11, (AP):** Muslim militants escalated their campaign for an independent Kashmir, killing two more hostages in Srinagar and bombing a crowded commuter train near Bombay, police said today.

The bodies of the two hostages were found late yesterday night, several hours after the body of a third hostage was dumped near a Srinagar fire station.

India sent more troops to the northern city and continued an indefinite curfew, an

### World poorer

#### 'Ailing' Mother Teresa retires

**VATICAN CITY, April 11, (AP):** Pope John Paul II has accepted the resignation of Mother Teresa as head of the religious order she founded to care for the sick and poor in Calcutta, India, the Vatican announced today.

The 79-year-old nun was hospitalised last year for heart trouble, and surgeons implanted a permanent pacemaker on Dec. 1. Deputy Vatican spokesman Monsignor Piero Pannachini noted that Mother Teresa was no longer able to leave Calcutta to visit her missions in other parts of the world.

Pannachini said Mother Teresa, who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979 for her charity work, submitted her resignation for health reasons and was happy to turn over the reins to "younger hands."

Mother Teresa, who was born in Yugoslavia, founded the Missionaries of Charity in 1950 in Calcutta's squalid slums. The order, recognised by the Vatican in 1965, expanded and now has 3,000 nuns working to help the poor in 87 countries.

A new head of the order will be elected in Calcutta Sept. 8, Pannachini said.

### Troops patrol a hungry Karachi

**KARACHI, April 11, (Reuters):** Tanks and armoured personnel carriers moved into the Pakistani city of Karachi today to guard against violence following the death of a leading political activist shot last week.

Three tanks and eight armoured personnel carriers took up position not far from the Aga Khan Hospital before a hospital spokesman announced that activist Nazif Ahmed had died.

Ahmed, a leading figure in the student wing of the ruling Pakistan People's Party (PPP), had been on a life support system since being shot last Friday.

At least 19 people died after the attack sparked a weekend of violence between PPP supporters and the Mohajir Qawmi Movement (MQM) that dominates this port city of eight million people.

Troops and paramilitary rangers have been patrolling Karachi since Monday to try to contain violence, fuelled by the easy availability of Kalashnikov assault rifles in Pakistan.

MOM chief Altaf Hussain, who represents Muslim migrants from India, and hundreds of his supporters are on hunger strike demanding the release of people arrested over the latest uprising in violence.

Altaf's doctors have warned he has a serious kidney complaint that could worsen if he does not take water.

The head of the Karachi PPP, Rashid Rabbani, has also threatened to begin fasting from today if those who killed PPP followers were not arrested.

In a press release, the Sindh provincial government said: "Some people who want to blackmail and believe in terrorism are trying to create a law and order situation."

The demands of the MOM are that there should not be any legal action against the terrorists and against all those involved in various crimes," said the press release.

Government officials said deployment of tanks and armoured cars was necessary to strengthen security in Karachi although the situation in Pakistan's biggest city was under control.

The MOM and PPP used to be coalition partners but their uneasy partnership splintered last October when the MOM defected to the opposition.

The PPP rules Sindh province but the MOM and Mohajir migrants from India dominate Karachi and the province's second city Hyderabad.

Since 1986 both cities have repeatedly been rocked by ethnic and political violence that has killed more than 1,000 people.



"Nun" of this:

A picture of three women dressed as Catholic nuns, walking in a procession, which appeared in an Australian government tourism brochure aimed at attracting Japanese visitors has been withdrawn and destroyed because it was labelled offensive to women and religion. The women were in fact lacy-dress travellers at a Melbourne Cup race meeting. (Rautai via photo)

### NEWSWATCH

**15 Aids cases in Kuwait:** Fifteen new cases of the killer disease Aids have been detected in Kuwait in the last two months bringing the total to 70, a Kuwaiti daily reported on Wednesday.

The newspaper quoted a Health Ministry spokesman as saying all those infected were expatriates. "The new Aids carriers were deported on the spot," the spokesman said.

Symptoms of acquired immune deficiency syndrome were found during tests on incoming foreign labourers, he added.

**Arrested for trying to sell son:** Detectives posing as Gulf Arabs have arrested a man for trying to sell them his three-year-old son for \$7,500, police sources said on Tuesday.

They said the detectives wore traditional robes and headress to a meeting with nightwatchman Mohammed Al Mahdi Isa, who offered to sell them his son, Mahmud.

"He wanted the money to buy a flat, a video recorder and improve his family's standard of living," one source told Reuters.

**Gunman kills cop, hijacks taxi:** An escaped convict shot dead a West German policeman on Wednesday, hijacked a taxi and seized two pregnant women hostages before driving into Belgium, police said in Aachen, West Germany.

They said Belgian and West German police helicopters were following the commando who had driven a woman and her sister. Both women are pregnant, a regional government spokesman said.

**Arab fund suit rejected:** An appeal court ruled on Tuesday that the Arab Monetary Fund, which is seeking damages against a former director-general now living in Britain, could not sue him in this country.



Professor Musheen-Ul-Haq vice chancellor of the Kashmir University, in academic dress before he was kidnapped by militants fighting against Indian rule in Kashmir. He was killed on Tuesday night by his kidnappers after the Indian government refused their demand to free three colleagues in exchange for him. (Reuters via photo)

### State less stable

#### Mubarak for confederation

**WASHINGTON, April 11, (AP):** Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak believes a confederation with Jordan would be a better solution for the Palestinian problem than an independent state, according to an interview published here this week.

Mubarak, speaking with editors of the weekly US News and World Report, said that under a permanent solution Israeli troops could withdraw from the occupied West Bank but remain stationed on strategic mountain ridges and along the Jordan River. "These arrangements can be reached during negotiations ... I think it might be accepted," he was quoted as saying.

Mubarak also said that once Israeli-Palestinian negotiations get under way, Syria would join them.

"We have a golden opportunity for peace now. But (some Israelis) are being blockheaded" in insisting that Jordan is the solution to the Palestinian problem, Mubarak said.

"At their last Algiers conference, the Palestinians agreed on a state in confederation with Jordan," he said. "I think it's a good solution. Confederation would be much more stable. We just shouldn't talk about it a lot," the Egyptian leader said.

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#### 50 dead in China's north-west unrest: travellers

**BEIJING, April 11, (Reuters):** Two negotiators sent to calm Islamic unrest in China's remote north-west were killed and in subsequent riots security forces killed about 50 people, Western travellers said yesterday, quoting local people.

But Xinjiang region officials, contacted by telephone from Beijing, repeatedly declined comment on Western media reports that troops had crushed a riot near the ancient Silk Road city of Kashgar last week.

In the most detailed version so far of the events, Swedish tourists Jan Arell and Karin

Teghammar said in Beijing that, according to unconfirmed accounts, trouble flared in the town some 50 km (30 miles) from Kashgar.

The trouble began after the local ethnic Kirghiz community had been prevented from building new mosques.

Two Chinese negotiators sent to the town, near Kashgar's airport, were killed after talks hit a deadlock.

Riots then erupted and troops suppressed them, killing about 50 people, the Swedish couple said, quoting well-informed local sources who could not be identified.

The couple said that at the time of the

reported unrest they themselves were in the regional capital of Urumqi some 1,000 km (600 miles) away and could not confirm the accounts independently. They did not know the name of the town.

A Western diplomat in Beijing said he had heard similar reports from different sources. A Xinjiang spokesman in Urumqi told Reuters that telephone interviews were forbidden and that it was not possible to visit the region for the time being.

A Communist Party official in Kashgar told a West German reporter that the unrest had been "suppressed" by Friday.



Amir visits diwaniya

HH the Amir last night visited Diwaniya Shura Al Nabat (local poets' premises). He was received at the diwaniya by its chairman Sheikh Mishal Al Jaber. Deputy

Premier and Foreign Minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed, Minister of Defence Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed and a number of senior officials accompanied the Amir in his visit

### Kuwait for UN Date with debt

**KUWAIT, April 11, (Kuna):** Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheik Sabah Al Ahmad leaves the country by end of next week for New York heading Kuwait's delegation to the 18th extraordinary session of the UN General Assembly.

Sheik Sabah, accompanied by Kuwaiti permanent UN representative Mohamed Abul Hassan and other senior officials, is to briefly stop over in Geneva and Paris on his way to New York.

The extraordinary session, which takes place in the period April 23-28, will be allocated to discussing international economic co-operation.

The Kuwaiti chief diplomat is to deliver a speech on April 24 tackling the world's economic situation and dangers of the debt problem's continuation on the poor countries.

The speech will further urge the international community to maintain closer co-operation to solve that problem and recall HH the Amir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad's proposals in his regard during a speech before the General Assembly in September 1988.

Kuwait learnt that the session will look into changes in the world economy and means of facing economic challenges especially in the developing nations in addition to finding methods of more effective multilateral co-operation in the economic sphere.

The session's preparatory committee had called on the international community to exert amalgamated efforts that would benefit all countries, arguing that such efforts would help ensure constant development in the world economy with particular emphasis on nourishing developing countries' economic growth.

The committee resolved that the extraordinary session would recommend appropriate guidelines in field of general policies especially regarding activities launched by the US and its affiliated agencies in addition to laying down an international development strategy for the nineties.

### Pearl of wisdom

#### Fatwa closes market

**KUWAIT, April 11, (UPI):** Kuwait's Islamic theologians have ruled that buying oysters on the chance they could bear pearls was sinful, and the ruling led to the closure of a decade-old oyster market, a Kuwaiti newspaper reported yesterday.

A Kuwaiti daily said that an ordinary citizen had approached the Ministry of Endowments and Islamic Affairs for an opinion on the practice, and the judgement was a formal prohibition.

Islamic experts told the Associated Press that the practice was considered tantamount to gambling, banned by the Muslim religion.

They quoted Sheikh Mishal Mubarak Al Sabah, head of the Islamic Judgement Department, as saying "the sale of pearls before cracking the oyster is illegal because only almighty God knows if it includes pearls or not."

The daily in turn explained that as oysters in Kuwait are purchased for the sole purpose of searching for pearls, the trade is tantamount to lottery or gambling. But if sold for eating, the trade becomes legal, it said.



Questions raised

France closed a chapter on a nagging hostage crisis in Lebanon with the return of its remaining captives but raised new questions on a possible arms-for-hostages deal.

Frenchwoman Jacqueline Valente and her Belgian lover Fernand Houtekens arrived in Paris on Tuesday night with their two-year-old daughter Sophie — Liberated while they were held hostage by a hardline pro-Libyan rebel group.

But even as French officials hailed the successful outcome of delicate negotiations to free them, a senior cabinet minister was forced to deny growing speculation that a Mirage jet deal with Libya bought their freedom.

He was referring to France's decision last month to allow the delivery of three Mirage jets to Libya despite a European embargo.

Shown above is Sophie holding on to her mother's hand. (Reuters via photo)

### Peres power 'dive'

**OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, April 11, (Reuters):** President Chaim Herzog gave Labour Party leader Shimon Peres two more weeks to try to form a government after Peres's first attempt failed in Parliament today.

The Labour leader was forced to seek an adjournment after the last-minute defection of two religious members deprived him of a parliamentary majority, leaving caretaker Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's right-wing Likud government in power.

Peres told reporters on leaving Herzog's office: "I asked for 15 days and the president granted this request."

Peres, looking subdued after the hour-long meeting with Herzog, did not say how he could establish a majority.

He deflected calls for another national unity government, saying the central question was whether or not Israel would resume Middle East peace efforts.

Labour quit a 15-month-old unity cabinet with Likud last month, opening the current political crisis, after Shamir refused to commit Israel to entering US-sponsored peace talks with the Palestinians in Cairo.

"Let's never forget that the government fell on the issue of peace," Peres told reporters. "I am convinced that if Israel does not open a peace process, we will lose the diplomatic initiative and create the conditions for a hostile initiative."

Two religious deputies humiliated by defecting from his coalition just before parliament held a special session due to approve a Labour-led cabinet to replace caretaker Shamir's right-wing Likud government.

Rabbi Avraham Verdiger and Rabbi Eliezer Mizrahi said they could not back a new government dependent on Arab deputies who supported the PLO.

### Aquino rejects rebel truce call

**MANILA, April 11, (UPI):** President Corazon Aquino today rejected a call by legislators for a Holy Week ceasefire with communist rebels, presidential spokesman Tomas Gomez said.

The ceasefire has been rejected. The Philippine government is ready for any and all contingencies," a statement read by Gomez said. "We will confront, we will engage. Unauthorized movement will be attacked."

Several lawmakers in the house of representatives, led by Rep. Gregorio Andolana, have called for a break in hostilities between government troops and the 19,000-member communist New People's Army, or NPA, during the Easter holidays.

### Ramadan timings

Thursday	3.53 am
Imsak:	6.13 pm

Friday	3.52 am
Imsak:	6.14 pm

(Details Page 7)

## INTERNATIONAL

## Tall tales brighten Filipino tabloids

## Dish out fantasy, flamboyance to titillate masses

MANILA, April 11, (AP): Extra, extra, read all about it. Woman gives birth to fish.

If that's too tame, how about randy spooks impregnating maidens? Or perhaps a "routine" appearance by the Virgin Mary?

Such reports are a staple of Manila's lively tabloids, among the most widely read of the city's more than 20 dailies.

In a country where the truth is often bizarre enough, English and Tagalog language tabloids dish out fantasy and flamboyance for those who find the broadsheet dailies too tame.

The latest titillation was the saga of "Goldfish Flores Pascua," a six-inch-long (15-centimetre-long) mudfish supposedly "born" to Lilian Pascua, 22, of Paniqui in Tarlac province.

Several Manila tabloids reported that Mrs. Pascua gave birth to the fish on March 31 and named it "Goldfish."

Tabloids splashed pictures of "Goldfish," swimming in a water basin, and its "parents" on their front pages.

For several days, tabloids regaled their readers with details of the couple's plans to baptise the fish on Palm Sunday, despite healthy scepticism by local officials.

"I think a fish should not be baptised and registered because it doesn't even have the resemblance of a man," said Panique Mayor Cesar Cuchapin.

The baptism controversy was resolved when tabloids reported last week that "Goldfish" isn't but celebrated life had come to an end. It was eaten by the family dog.

With "Goldfish" history, the tabloid Ang Pilipino Ngayon, or Filipino Today, reported yesterday that a 6-year-old boy had given birth by Cesarean section in a hospital in Pampanga province. The baby, a boy, was still-born, the tabloid reported.

Not to be scooped, Manila radio station DZXL telephoned the hospital and spoke with an official, who confirmed that something resembling a foetus had been extracted from the boy.

"How could he give birth when he is only 8 years old?" the reporter asked, apparently more curious over the age than the sex peculiarity.

The official was at a loss for a response.

Many of the far-fetched reports play on traditions of mysticism and superstition that run deep in this predominantly Roman Catholic country.

"Goldfish" attracted almost as much attention as a tanned girl in Laguna province, who the tabloids reported two years ago became pregnant by the spirit of a 19th century cleric.

Apparitions by the Virgin Mary are frequently reported, although the church hierarchy tends to give them little credence. The most recent was reported last year, when the Virgin supposedly appeared in a coconut grove southeast of Manila.

## Ties with Manila strong: US

MANILA, April 11, (AP): An senior US official met today with President Corazon Aquino and said ties between Manila and Washington continue to be strong.

Asst Secretary of State Richard Solomon was the first senior American official to meet Aquino since she had refused to meet Defence Secretary Dick Cheney last February because she was angry about critical reporting of her administration in the US media.

"The fundamental is our support of democracy here and we feel there is a strong basis of shared interest in security cooperation and we look forward to negotiations on the bases as part of that broader relationship," Solomon told reporters after his hour-long meeting.

The lease on Clark Air Base, the Subic Bay Naval Base and four smaller installations expires next year. Talks on extending the agreement are scheduled to begin May 14.

Asked for his assessment of US-Philippine ties in view of negative reports about graft and corruption in the Aquino administration, Solomon said: "I think they are basically very solid."

Solomon also said the Soviet military threat was never a primary focus of security cooperation with the Philippines, a former US colony.



Mother and wife mourn the death of family member on Tuesday in Kathmandu after he was killed by soldiers during demonstrations for political rights. Nepal on Saturday. (Reuter wirephoto)



Jubilant school girls participated in a victory rally in Kathmandu three days after King Birendra's announcement of political rights. More than a thousand students marched in the capital their schools yesterday after several closed days due to the recent political violence. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Nepal king withdraws

## Activists to be freed

KATHMANDU, April 11, (AP): King Birendra has withdrawn from active participation in politics and wants the government to heal the wounds caused by a crackdown on Nepal's pro-democracy movement. Foreign Minister Pushpapatni Rana said today.

Meanwhile, state-run radio announced that all charges would be dropped against activists arrested since the movement began Feb. 12.

The opposition estimates about 300 political prisoners are in jail.

Rana's statement was the first on the king's role in Nepal's new multiparty system, which Birendra approved on Sunday.

Rana said a centrist party and a left-wing coalition continued negotiations on forming a provisional government.

The Nepali Congress Party and the United Left Front said yesterday they would not participate in the government if the present partyless National Assembly, the Rashtriya Panchayat, was not dissolved.

The two parties led the seven-week pro-democracy campaign that forced Birendra to establish a multiparty system.

Political parties were banned in Nepal 29 years ago when the democratically elected government headed by the Nepali Congress Party was sacked by Birendra's father, Mahendra. It ended Nepal's only

experimental with a Western-style democracy.

The Nepali Congress Party, underground and continued its campaign for multiparty democracy, a left-wing coalition joined Nepal Congress on Feb. 12, after a popular movement supported by academics, doctors, engineers, pilots and peasants.

A government spokesman said the king had not yet decided on the new political system.

It is believed that a new political system will be in place by the end of the year, though the exact date is not clear. King Birendra has been advised to "heal these wounds" before any new political system is formed.

Rana said the king had no specific reference to party representation in the new constitution, has "reinforced" his participation in active politics.

But the state-run radio declined to refer to the government as the "king's government" so far. In the afternoon news programme, it said: "His Majesty's government had decided to withdraw by Friday all criminal cases against those arrested during the pro-democracy movement."

To a question on the king's growing criticism in the future, Rana said: "Freedom of expression has been established."

## Tigers in talks

## First round begins

COLOMBO, April 11, (UPI): Sri Lankan government officials met yesterday with leaders of the Tamil rebel group for the first round of talks since the Indian troops left the island nation more than two weeks ago.

The talks were hosted by President Ranasinghe Premadasa, who was expected to discuss several key issues, including the surrender of weapons, the resettlement of refugees and law and order in the nation's northeast provinces.

Premadasa was joined by his defence minister, justice minister and several other top government

officials in holding the talks with the political wing of the major Tamil militant group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam.

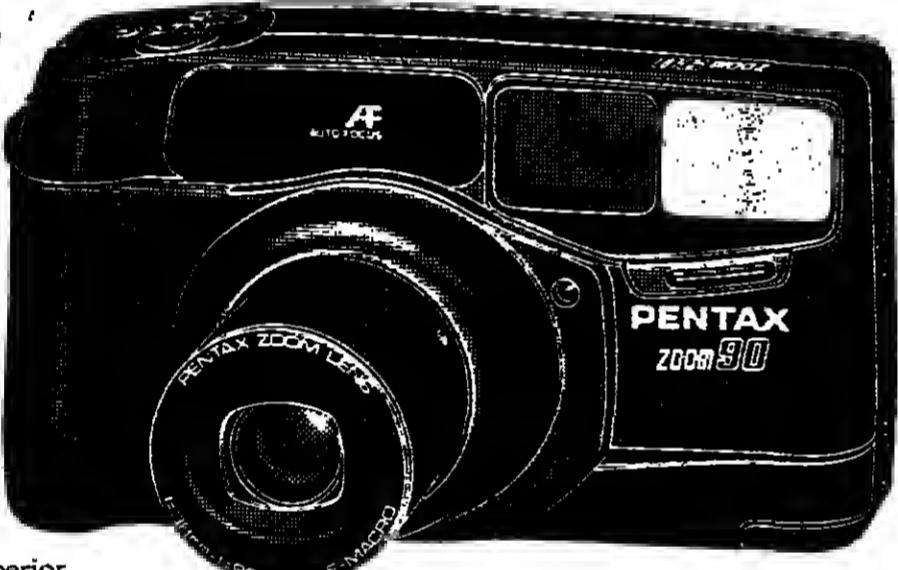
Both the Tigers and Sri Lankan law enforcement authorities said they were satisfied that there had been a marked improvement in the law and order situation in the northeast region since Indian troops left March 24.

It was observed that normally was fast being restored and the people were now able to go about their daily pursuits without interruption, a statement from the presidential secretariat said.



# PENTAX

## ZOOM 90



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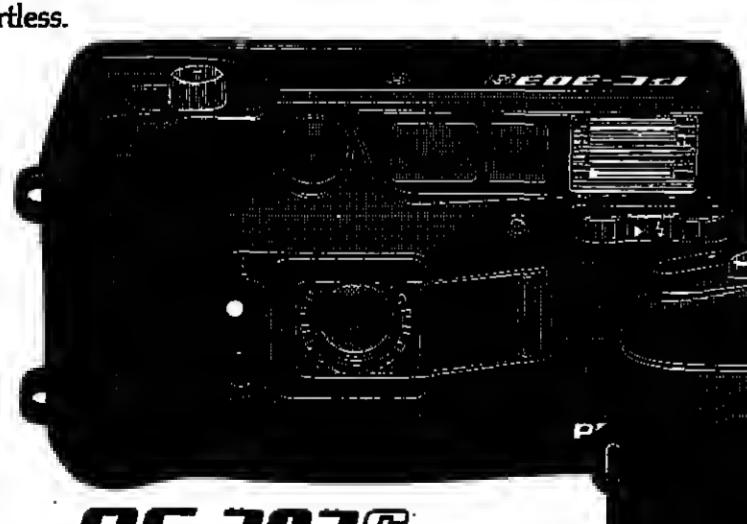
## ZOOM 70-X



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**PC-505** Here's a pocket-sized compact that takes the sharp, bright pictures you expect. Automatic focus, exposure, flash control, and film handling make everything as easy as can be. A self-timer gets you into the picture and a shutter release lock helps protect against accidental triggering.

**PC-303S** Shoot in a second at parties, picnics, and wonderful smiles: A foolproof point-and-shoot 205-grain technological wonder with built-in flash, this easy-to-use Pentax has auto frame advance and one-action rewind. Be in your own pictures with the self-timer. Auto day/date imprinting. A good-looking high performer.

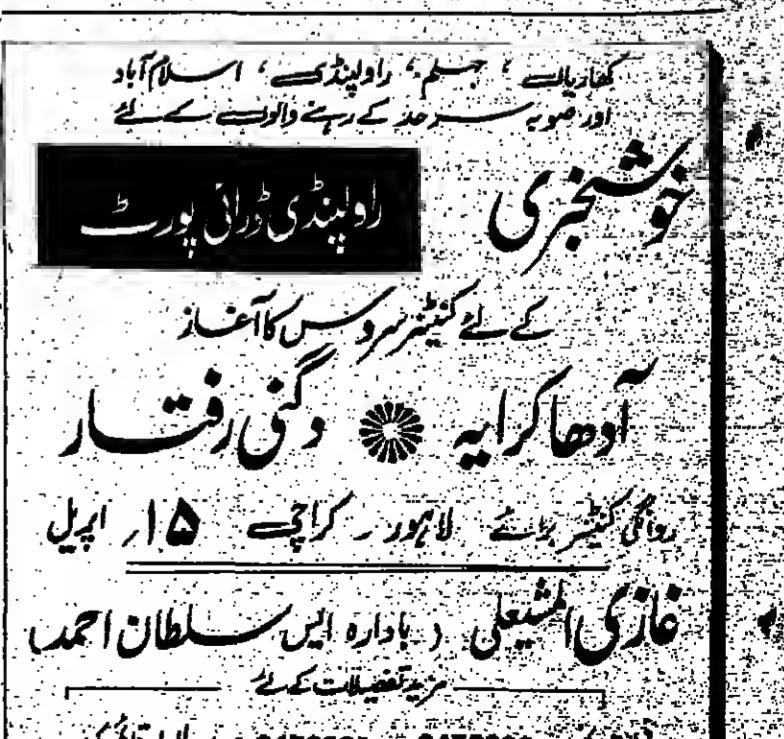


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# Study reports link between job stress, heart changes

CHICAGO, April 11. (AP): Job stress can lead to high blood pressure and cause potentially dangerous physical changes in the heart, according to a new study of male workers.

The findings are based on a study of 215 men ages 30 to 60 at seven work sites in New York City, including a stock-brokerage firm, private hospital and garbage collection facility, researchers wrote in today's journal of the American medical association.

Job strain resulted when workers felt they faced high psychological demands without having much control over day-to-day

decisions, said Dr Peter Schnall, the lead researcher at Cornell University Medical College in New York.

Twenty-one per cent of the subjects suffered job strain, and faced about a three times greater risk of having high blood pressure than those who did not experience job strain, said Carl Pieper, a Cornell statistician.

All men ages 30 to 40 years old with high-stress jobs had a "clinically significant" thickening of the heart's left ventricle, or chamber, a condition that often precedes coronary disease and heart attacks, Pieper said in a telephone interview yesterday.

Their heart muscles were an average of 20 grams bigger than those without job stress, a substantial difference but still within normal range, Schnall said.

"To the best of our knowledge, this is the first time a psychosocial variable based on job characteristics has been found to be related to both hypertension and anatomical increases in heart mass," the researchers wrote.

"If our model is correct, job situations where the level of work demands exceeds the individual's ability to control or deal with those demands creates a challenge that activates the sympathetic nervous system and

leads to an elevation of blood pressure at work."

"Long-term exposure (over years) to job strain is hypothesised to ultimately result in a sustained elevation of blood pressure that then causes structural change in the cardiovascular system," they wrote.

While the notion that psychological factors can physically affect the body is not new, it is viewed with skepticism by some medical authorities, Dr Redford B. Williams of Duke University Medical Centre said in an accompanying editorial.

The authors concluded that job strain was "significantly related" to high blood pressure and increased heart mass after adjusting for factors such as age, alcohol intake and smoking.

"We're not showing that job strain is causing heart disease," Schnall said. "What we're showing is that job strain is causing a change in muscle mass" that could lead to disease.

The study, based on data gathered through 1989, is continuing for another five years to determine if the changes are permanent or progressive, he said.

## Probers found fault with doors

WASHINGTON, April 11. (AP): An accident that sucked nine United passengers out of a Boeing jumbo jet over the Pacific Ocean resulted from failures by the airline, manufacturer and a federal agency to correct problems in cargo doors on 747 airliners, federal investigators said yesterday.

The National Transportation Safety Board voted 3-0 to accept the results of a more than 13-month investigation despite the fact a key piece of evidence in the Feb. 24, 1989, incident remains three miles under water: Flight 811's cargo door.

The NTSB said United failed to properly inspect the door after its electrical system failed in December 1988 and mechanics had to operate it manually. The door had been operated electrically since then, however.

Boeing and the Federal Aviation Administration were cited for failing to order timely corrective measures after another cargo door partially popped open on a 1987 Pan American jet flying from London to New York. That plane returned safely to London.

On flight 811, the door ripped off at 22,000 feet. A piece of the fuselage was ripped off and the passengers and their seats were sucked out through the hole in the plane.

The plane, en route to New Zealand, returned to Honolulu. Five other passengers were seriously hurt and 33 had minor injuries. The plane carried a crew of 18 and 377 passengers.

United spokesman Robert Dowdy said the airline had complied with all FAA requirements except in one instance. That occurred after six rules mandating an inspection were left out of an FAA regulation when it was copied into the company's system, he said.

Dowdy said that despite the oversight, the door had undergone three inspections since the December 1988 problem was corrected.

"We think the board has done a good job with the evidence and data available," Dowdy said, adding that a better investigation and probable cause could be determined if the door is recovered.

Boeing had recommended that the board conclude that probable cause of the incident could not be determined.

In Seattle, Boeing spokesman Jack Gamble said the company had no comment on the NTSB finding "except to say we feel, No. 1, those cargo doors are safe."

"There were subsequent changes made as a result of the accident, changes and inspection processes. All of the necessary actions have been taken to ensure integrity of that door's operation in flight," Gamble said.

The board said the current cargo door system on 747s can indicate to the pilot that the door is locked when it is not.



Kodiak Bear

A Kodiak bear plays in a pool on a sunny morning at Hamburg's zoo 'Hagenbeck's Tierpark' (Reuter wirephoto)

## Iata warns of 'air congestion'

### Reorganise or face standstill

GENEVA, April 11. (Reuter): Western Europe must radically reorganise the way it manages airspace or face a near standstill in air traffic by the late 1990s, according to an Iata-sponsored report released yesterday.

The report, commissioned by the International Air Traffic Association (Iata), called for an urgent conference of governments, airlines and international aviation organisations to discuss the problem before it is too late. "A radical reorganisation of the way in which West European airspace is managed is urgent and essential if the region's air transport system is not to be brought to a near standstill in the late 1990s because of congestion," it said.

The study predicted that the number of air passengers carried each year in Europe would nearly double to 500 million in 2000 from 267 million in 1988. By 2010, the figure could jump to 740 million.

Prepared over two years by researchers SRI International, the document said that by 2000 the losses to national economies due to restrictions on air transport growth would be almost \$10 billion a year if nothing was done.

Iata technical director Norman Jackson estimated at a news conference that it would cost about an extra \$10 billion during the decade to remedy the situation.

In addition to reorganising air corridors and air traffic control, airports must grow, the study said.

"A commitment to timely

## Rights of cells in research disputed

LOS ANGELES, April 11. (AP): California's supreme court heard arguments yesterday on whether a leukemia survivor deserves to share profits from an anti-cancer drug made from his cells.

The case pits medical progress against a man's rights to his own body.

"Without my knowledge or consent, the doctors and the research institutions used a part of me for their own gain," John Rossi, president of a Seattle soft-drink company, said as he entered the courtroom.

"They stole something from me," he said.

Moore, 45, said he sued the University of California, two researchers and two biotechnology and drug companies to defend "the rights of the individual patient in the case where the physician-researcher is also a businessman-entrepreneur."

### Hinder

Industrial Biotechnology Association lawyer Gary Richey, who filed a friend-of-the-court brief opposing Moore's lawsuit, said outside court that development of vital new medicines will be hindered if the court rules that Moore has a property interest in cells and tissues removed from his body.

"Research is conducted for the benefit of the public," Alton Wagner, attorney for the University of California regents, told the high court. "If Moore succeeds, he will infuse a private interest that will result in the course and direction of

Moore was an Alaska pipeline surveyor in 1976 when he sought treatment for hairy cell leukemia at the University of California-Los Angeles. Dr David Golde removed Moore's spleen, the standard treatment for the rare leukemia, and his disease went into remission.

After the spleen was removed, Golde discovered it contained unique blood cells that produced a blood protein called GM-CSF, now in experimental use as a drug to stimulate the immune system to fight certain cancers and possibly AIDS.

### Value

Moore's attorney, Sanford Gage, said Moore was never told his cells had great potential value. Yet for nearly seven years, Golde and others brought Moore from Seattle to Los Angeles for blood and other tests while they developed Moore's cells into a self-perpetuating cell line to mass-produce GM-CSF.

In 1984, UCLA received a patent for the cell line, naming Golde and research assistant Shirley Quan as the inventors.

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HARTFORD, Connecticut: Two union workers who took part in a strike at a Colt Manufacturing Company plant that lasted more than four years celebrated the end of the walkout by exchanging coins.

Ed Vergas, a justice of the peace, called it a "marriage made in union heaven."

"We waited until the end of the strike," said Carmen Diaz, 42, who was joined by David Barnham, 35, in front of a surprised, cheering crowd at a united auto workers celebration Saturday evening.

Diaz said she could not have picked a better place to hold the ceremony than with her union buddies.

The strike, which began on January 24, 1986, officially ended March 22 when a buyout agreement was announced which made the striking workers co-owners of the plant along with Colt managers, the state of Connecticut and private investors. (AP)

PHILADELPHIA, Pennsylvania: Flutist James Galway's eyes sparkle at the mention of his operatic debut in the little role of Bessie's "The Taming Magpie" in its first US performance in this century.

"I didn't study birds for years to this; I studied music," said Galway, 50, who is basing his stage name on his observation of the chattering, black and white bird.

Rossini wrote the opera using an actor as the magpie who stole the silver spoon and caused a young servant girl to be sentenced to death, but the opera company of Philadelphia revised the role for a musician.

The rolling notes Galway plays as he flits about the stage were borrowed from passages Rossini wrote for the violin and flute as parts of the orchestra do so in the pit. (AP)

GREEN RIVER, Wyoming: Actor Harrison Ford, whose breathtaking chase scenes have characterised his role as film adventurer Indiana Jones, stopped in this southern Wyoming town last week and quietly bought a new motorcycle.

Linda Stance, a clerk at the Harley-Davidson of Green River motorcycle shop, said Ford spent about 45 minutes Thursday buying a 1990 black and cream Heritage model Harley.

Stance said Ford, who owns land near Jackson, called earlier in the week to ask if the shop carried the motorcycle. Told the bike was available, he said he would fly to the Rock Springs airport and would need a lift to the shop. (AP)

EAST LANSING, Michigan: A fluffy, white arctic fox was sold enough to escape from Potter park zoo but freedom apparently did not mean much to her.

The fox, named Aspen, escaped early Friday by tunneling under three fences.

Curator Alan Whitney said the fox was sold enough to escape from Potter park zoo but freedom apparently did not mean much to her.

"I was sick when I came to work and found out she was missing," Whitney said. "We thought she'd been hit by a car or injured. And then all of sudden there she was."

"I just scooped her up and took her to the zoo." (AP)

GALLATIN GATEWAY, Montana: Medina Medina and Ted Tesser attracted hundreds of farmers, ranchers and big-game hunters to an auction of surplus equipment from his extensive holdings in southwest Montana.

Saturday's auction, which offered everything from diesel tractors and hay bale stackers to irrigation pipe as he converts his Flying D Ranch from cattle to raising buffalo and trophy elk.

The Flying D earlier sold about 11,000 cattle and began cutting back on growing hay at higher elevations to make room for the 3,000 to 4,000 buffalo that Turner wants to let roam, said ranch manager Bill Griffith. (AP)

LONDON: The revival of the American play "Barry", which marked the London stage debut of actress-model Jerry Hall is closing May 6 due to poor business, producer Michael White said Tuesday.

Mr. Hall, the long-time companion of Mick Jagger of the Rolling Stones, plays Charlie, the failed "Chateaubriand" portrayed in the 1956 film of the play by Marilyn Monroe. The production, co-starring Shannen Cassidy, opened Feb. 28 to mixed-to-poor reviews at the Lyric Theatre on the West End.

White declined to announce the amount of money the show has lost. (AP)

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## World News Roundup

## Telescope rests

## Shuttle hits snag

CAPE CANAVERAL, April 11, (AP): It should have been orbiting 380 miles (610 kilometres) high today and looking at the heavens, but instead the \$1.5-billion Hubble space telescope rests inside the space shuttle Discovery, shielded from earthly dust and debris.

The shuttle's launch was scrubbed for minutes before liftoff yesterday because of a malfunctioning power unit. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration said the mission will be attempted again in a week or two. The space agency needs the time to replace the unit and recharge the telescope's batteries.

"We are certainly concerned about contamination every day that we're here on earth, and we will do everything we have done in the past to assure that we take care of any problem like this," said Fred Wojtalik, a NASA project manager.

Hubble has a 94-inch (240-centimetre) mirror that is the finest ever made and even a speck of dust would impair its efficiency. The telescope is being stored underneath a protective cover within the sealed shuttle.

The delay was the latest of many for Hubble, NASA's most expensive and complex payload. The telescope originally was scheduled to take its place in 1983. In 1983, two technical problems and the 1986 Challenger explosion interfered.

Wojtalik said NASA had not decided whether to change the telescope's nickel-hydrogen batteries while they are inside the orbiter or at a laboratory.



Aurelius returns

The ancient edict statue of Roman Emperor Marcus Aurelius finally restored after a bureaucratic odyssey lasting almost a decade, returns to its home atop the Capitolio hill Wednesday.

The second-century statue, considered a prime example of Roman realism, will be put in place beside the Capitoline museum. It will go on public display beginning April 21.

Inside surrounded by a clear plastic sheathing, in a climate-controlled environment, the bronze larger-than-life statue will be protected from the pollution which forced its removal from the centre of the Michelangelo-designed piazza for restoration on Jan 17, 1981.

Picture above shows an expert giving the last touches to the statue. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Texas governor's race

## Richards beats Mattox

AUSTIN, Texas, April 11, (AP): Texas state treasurer Ann Richards has defeated attorney general Jim Mattox to claim the Democratic Gubernatorial nomination.

Ms. Richards, who has a chance to become the first woman in Texas to be governor since Democratic Governor Miriam "Ma" Ferguson in the 1930s, will duel with Republican oilman-rancher Clayton Williams in November.

With 87 per cent of the precincts reporting, Ms. Richards, the 1983 Democratic national convention keynote speaker, had 552,021 votes, or 56.2 per cent, to Mattox's 430,231, or 43.8 per cent in yesterday's election.

## Africa

**Black squatter shacks demolished:** A right-wing South African municipality demolished 62 black squatter shacks on Tuesday in a dawn raid which a human rights lawyer called a reprisal against apartheid reforms.

Police armed with rifles surrounded the Bloekombos squatter settlement in Kraaifontein, a conservative white area about 30 km (20 miles) outside Cape Town.

They held scores of angry black residents back from the shacks while municipal workers searched through the flimsy structures of wood, plastic and tin and piled personal belongings outside.

The people were given a few minutes to collect their things before two yellow bulldozers flattened their homes. (Reuter)

**Mobutu to announce changes:** Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko will soon announce radical changes in the country's political system, the Belgian news agency Belga reported on Wednesday.

It quoted the official news agency (Azap) in the former Belgian colony as saying Mobutu planned "a radical shakeup of the Zairean political landscape."

Mobutu said last month there could be changes to the one-party state, but gave no details or time-scale. He declined to say then whether he would introduce a multi-party system.

Belga said the announcement would be made to people's representatives from across the country on April 24.

The Central African state became independent in 1960 and Mobutu's presidential system has been in place for almost 20 years. (Reuter)

**UNCN to dissolve:** The United Nations Council for Namibia (UNCN), for years barred from operating in Namibia by the country's former South African rulers, met here for the first time on Monday to settle its fate as an alternative government to Pretoria's rule. It will dissolve on Wednesday after a three-day meeting in Windhoek, opened by Namibia's President Sam Nujoma.

Namibia gained independence from South Africa in March after decades of international wrangling and a 23 year bush war fought by the South Africa's People's Organisation, which won UN supervised elections in the country last November. (Reuter)

## Americas

**Men close in on population gap:** The census bureau said Tuesday that the number of men grew faster than the number of women in the 1980s in the United States, something that hasn't happened since the first decade of this century.

Death rates for men declined more rapidly than for women, extending male lifespans and allowing their population to increase more rapidly than women, the new study disclosed.

Cancer deaths increased among women while dropping for men. Increased smoking by women beginning in the 1960s is a likely factor in the change, a census expert said. (AP)

**Johnson's widow won't read book:** Lady Bird Johnson said Tuesday that some of the things written about her husband would make her angry if she read them, so "the simplest thing is not to read them."

That was the closest the widow of President Lyndon B. Johnson, came to commenting on the furor over Robert Caro's biography of Johnson, "Means of Ascent."

Mrs. Johnson made the comment while meeting with reporters before a speech wedged up a Johnson administration reunion. (AP)

**Toxic pollutants in great lakes:** A US-Canadian commission on Tuesday issued what the chairwoman said was its strongest warning to date that toxic pollution of the great lakes is endangering human health.

"The mounting evidence cannot be denied," said the report by the international joint commission, which oversees major water bodies shared by the United States and Canada. It urged both nations to develop and implement a comprehensive plan to rid the lakes of toxic chemicals.

"Despite the significance of the great lakes and our collective rhetoric to restore and enhance them, we as a society continue to mortgage their future by poisoning, suffocating and otherwise threatening them," the report said. (AP)

**Radiation exposure on the rise:** Latest figures show the highest number ever of incidents of worker exposure to measurable radiation at the nation's nuclear power plants, a consumer group said Tuesday in Washington.

The study by an Energy Research project of Public Citizen, a consumer advocacy group, found 105,265 instances of worker exposure to measurable radiation at the commercial nuclear reactors in 1983. (AP)

**Word of new drug not getting out:** Patients with spinal cord injuries may not be getting a new treatment that reduces paralysis because federal health officials have not sent research data to physicians, a consumer advocacy group said Tuesday in Washington.

The public citizen health research group called it a "colossal failure of communication" and said that "any further delay in notifying all emergency rooms about this is recklessly irresponsible." (AP)

**6 kids die in trailer fire:** Fire that roared through a house trailer early Tuesday morning killed six children ranging in age from 9 months to 12 years in Larose, Louisiana.

Another fire in Delaware killed five family members.

In the trailer, "one body was found in the hallway leading to the bathroom, one in the kitchen and four were in a bedroom," said detective Paul Lirette, of the Larose Parish sheriff's department. The cause of the fire was under investigation. (AP)

**Townhouse blaze kills 5:** A fire raced through a townhouse Tuesday, claiming the lives of a young couple, their son and two daughters, authorities said in Glasgow, Delaware.

The only member of the family left alive was a 6-year-old girl, who had already left for school when the blaze broke out at the central Delaware home around 8 am (1200 GMT), said state fire Marshal J. Benjamin Roy. (AP)

**Harvard class of 40 admire Gorby:** Former classmates in Harvard College's class of 1940 admire the late US President John Kennedy less than Mikhail Gorbachev.

Kennedy, president from 1961 to 1963, did not even make the top 10 in the poll asking class members which figures of the last 50 years they admired most. (Reuter)

**Pre-Passover ritual dampened:** When a group of Hasidic Jews set fire to break in a passover ritual on a street in New York's borough of Brooklyn, firefighters rode up and doused the flames.

The Satmar sect Hasidim, prayer books in hand, protested, but to no avail.

John Mulligan, a fire department spokesman, said the firefighters were right to hose down the burning loaves Monday night. (AP)

**Memorials show cracks, wear:** Washington's famed Lincoln and Jefferson memorials are suffering from cracks and wear and tear and need \$12 million of work, officials of the US Capitol said on Tuesday.

But the officials say little danger to the 2.5 million tourists who annually visit the monuments — huge marble structures containing statues. (Reuter)

**Continuing investigations:** Government prosecutors in Washington, flush with victory after seeing former Reagan administration aide John Poindexter convicted on all charges, are considering leads in other similar cases, insiders said Tuesday.

Poindexter was Reagan's national security adviser and met almost daily with the president. (Kuna)

**NZ islands rocked by quakes:** An earthquake measuring 5 on the Richter Scale rocked the lower south island on Wednesday, about four hours after a smaller quake was felt in the lower north island. It was reported in New Zealand.

The southern earthquake, at 9.45 am (2145 GMT Tuesday), appeared centred to Fiordland, department of science and technology seismologist Murray Lowry said.

The northern earthquake measured 4.5 and occurred at 5.46 am (1746 GMT Tuesday). It was centred north of Wellington, the capital. (AP)

**Hot-air balloon flight over Everest:** A three-man Japanese team will attempt the world's first hot-air balloon flight from Tibet to Nepal over Mount Everest in early May, the group said Tuesday.

Michio Kanda, 40, the team's leader, said the 70 million-yen (\$443,000) adventure is to dramatise international goodwill and environmental problems, particularly deforestation. (AP)

**Tornado kills 16 people:** A tornado and hailstorm in southern China's Guangdong province killed 16 people, according to an official newspaper seen on Beijing on Wednesday.

The Yangtze Evening News said the storm, Monday afternoon hit coastal Yangtze City and surrounding towns. The tornado rained huge hailstones. (AP)

**Pueblo crew to get POW medal:** The crew of the USS Pueblo long ineligible for POW medals despite their 11-month captivity in North Korea during the Vietnam war, will finally be formally honoured as Prisoners of War, the department of Veterans Affairs said Tuesday in San Diego.

The belated recognition was made possible by a congressional amendment signed by President George Bush in December after protests over the crew's exclusion from a 1988 POW ceremony, said Daniel Emer, regional VA director. (UPI)

**3 lost in avalanche:** Leaders of a Himalayan mountaineering expedition that lost three members to an avalanche said Tuesday weather and political conditions in Nepal could delay other team members from recovering the bodies and returning home.

Doo Goodman, leader of the 9-member expedition to climb 26,775-foot (8,161 m) Manaslu, the world's eighth tallest peak, said it could take a week or more before team members still in Nepal can get word out on whether they were able to recover the bodies of their dead comrades. (UPI)

**Drug abuse**



Members of the Colombian intelligence and security agency (DAS) force confessed killer Gustavo Mesa (left) to pose for the press. Mesa confessed to killing a journalist last year and is believed to have taken part in the assassination of presidential candidate Bernardo Jaramillo. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Killing for as little as \$40

## Slums breed 'sicarios'

MEDELLIN, Colombia, April 11, (Reuter): On the hillsides surrounding the cocaine capital of Medellin lie the slums which supply Colombia's drug lords with a labour force for their dirty work.

The cramped settlements are breeding grounds for the dreaded "sicarios" or hired assassins, who for a small price will kill anybody — policeman, journalist or politician.

Frequently contracted by the drug traffickers to kill anyone who stands in their way, the sicarios are on the frontlines of Colombia's drug war which has claimed more than 220 lives since the government cracked down on the illegal drug trade last August.

"A generation lives here which doesn't know what it is to die of old age," said an army major in charge of a night-time crime sweep in Aranjuez, one of the most notorious neighbourhoods for sicarios.

Usually aged between 15 and 20, the sicarios will do anything to escape grinding poverty, often killing for as little as \$40.

Their trademark is to shoot at their victims from a motorbike and then speed off. Few of their crimes are solved.



Off to the market

A villager takes his son off to the market in Purwakarta, West Java April 8. On his return the basket will be filled with vegetables to be sold door-to-door in his village. (Reuter wirephoto)

**Breakthrough:** A series of experiments has shown that a Chinese herbal medicine may be able to ease the symptoms of Alzheimer's disease, a type of senile dementia, a Japanese medical team confirmed Tuesday.

Experiments on rats by a research team led by professor Michihiko Fujiwara of Fukuoka University showed that the herbal compound, called Toki Shakuyaku-san, improves spatial perception disorders, a typical symptom of senile dementia. (Kuna)

**Cheney launches probe:** US Defence Secretary Dick Cheney has ordered an investigation into why he was not told that a 2,000-pound (900-kg) bomb missed its target in Panama after it was dropped by a US "Stealth" fighter, the Pentagon said on Tuesday.

Cheney, unaware of the missed target, repeatedly praised the pinpoint accuracy of the air force's high technology F-117A fighter jet during the US invasion of Panama on December 20. (Reuter)

**Worry over police violence:** The newly appointed police chief of the Brazilian state of Sao Paulo, where policemen kill hundreds of people every year, said on Tuesday that the most serious problem he faced was police violence.

In an interview with the newspaper Folha de Sao Paulo, Sao Paulo's public security secretary, Antonio Mariz, barely mentioned criminals. "My great worry today is the violence practised by the police," Mariz said. (Reuter)

**Brazil to auction cars:** Brazilian President Fernando Collor de Mello on Tuesday ordered the auction of 2,000 government cars as part of his austerity programme.

Immediately after he gave the order, hundreds of official cars were driven to a car park near the presidential palace to await the auction, which is set for May 19. (Reuter)

**Colombia police, rebels clash:** Leftist rebels attacked a village in northeastern Colombia, killing six police agents and destroying the police station before reinforcements retook the town early Tuesday, authorities said.

Authorities said they have no information on civilian casualties, but a military spokesman told United Press International seven rebels died in battles with the police agents after the night-long occupation. (UPI)

**Venezuela prison riots:** Rival factions of inmates armed with knives and sharpened iron rods battled for three hours on Tuesday in a western Venezuelan prison.

An official said that six inmates were stabbed to death and two others were severely injured before calm was restored in the Santa Ana prison. (AP)

**Mexican doctor pleads innocent:** A Mexican physician indicted in the torture-slaying of US drug agent Enrique Camarena pleaded innocent to murder charges Tuesday and told the judge, "I want to prove I am a good man."

US District Judge Edward Rafeedie ordered Humberto Alvarez-Machain, 42, a gynaecologist from Guadalajara, held without bail. (UPI)

**Pueblo crew to get POW medal:** The crew of the USS Pueblo long ineligible for POW medals despite their 11-month captivity in North Korea during the Vietnam war, will finally be formally honoured as Prisoners of War, the department of Veterans Affairs said Tuesday in San Diego.

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**Drug abuse**

## Does penalty help curbing?

## Drug abuse

LONDON, April 11, (AP): Does punishment help curb drug abuse? The United States says yes. The Netherlands says no.

The opposing approaches to dealing with drug users surfaced yesterday at an international drug summit attended by more than 800 delegates from 112 countries.

Casual drug use in the US is down dramatically, and US drug official Herbert Kleber said stripping drugs of glamour and holding users accountable for their actions is a major reason why. Kleber is deputy director of demand reduction in the office of national drug control policy.

Both casual and heavy users know drugs are illegal, he said, and the consequences range from suspending a pilot's license to expulsion from school or imprisonment.

Casual use of cocaine has dropped 37 per cent over the last three years in the United States and marijuana use has dropped sharply.

A Netherlands official disagrees with that "war on drugs" approach.

Eddy

# Police search for clues to ship fire

Suspicions of arson strengthen

STOCKHOLM, April 11, (AP): Police searched through files of known arsonists and through the black shell of the ferry Scandinavian Star yesterday for clues to the weekend fire that killed around 200 people. Investigators in Sweden's west coast port of Lysekil said entire decks were literally vapourised and it may be impossible to pinpoint physical evidence on how the blaze started.

In Oslo, Norwegian police who took charge of the case said they were searching for one or more arsonist, but they were unsure whether the

perpetrator died in the flames that engulfed the 10,500-ton ship en route from Norway to Denmark.

"I believe we will be able to discover who was behind the fire," said Magnus Aukrust, the assistant city police chief. "We have some detailed information, but we have not yet committed our resources in a specific direction."

"We have no specific person as a suspect. But suspicions of arson were strengthened by the technical investigation on board," said Aukrust's deputy, Arne Haase.

Aukrust said about a third of the rescued passengers and crew have been questioned so far in the hunt for a suspect.

Oslo police were to publish a list of 186 people considered missing from the estimated 534 people who boarded the doomed ship. The figures were fluctuating as people considered missing reported in, said Oystein Berger, a senior police officer.

Police opened the final cabins for inspection yesterday, three days after the smoldering ship was towed into port. They said the devastation will make it difficult to identify the victims, or even to accurately count them.

More than 120 bodies were recovered, and "the bodies left on board are so badly burned you can put them in a team," said police inspector Leif Skoglund.

"I went on the ship this afternoon. It was terrible," he said. About 20 bodies were prone in the corridor, people who succumbed to the poisonous smoke as they tried to flee.

Rioting subsequently erupted at Dartmoor prison in southwest England, and prisons at Bristol in western England, Cardiff in Wales, Hull in northeast England, Leeds in northern England and London's Pentonville and Brixton prisons.

Rioting also erupted at three young offenders institutions.

Two more inmates surrendered yesterday at Strangeways prison which has sparked trouble at other prisons across the country.

Before the pair gave themselves up, two warders were injured when prisoners hurled stones from the roof.

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## Walesa backs away

### Presidential declaration

WARSAW, April 11, (AP): Solidarity leader Lech Walesa told reporters today that he was misunderstood when he said he will run for president, and he meant only that reforms in Poland should be speeded up.

Walesa said his "metaphor" to the Polish news agency Pap yesterday was a warning to the present government to work faster in transforming Poland from a communist to a democratic system.

"I confirm," Pap quoted Walesa as saying yesterday when asked if he would run for president in the next elections. "We have many wise and valuable people in government, holding various posts. However, time must speed up the pace of reforms and destroy the old arrangements."

Despite his statement today, politicians in Poland showed they believe Walesa will run for president, with the only question being when the voting will take place.

President Wojciech Jaruzelski's term is not due to end

until 1995, but there is a strong possibility that voting will be moved up as part of a general overhaul of the Polish constitution.

Walesa said his remarks would bring a political backlash.

He then stressed that his "signal" meant simply that "there is a need to speed up reforms, and not the taking of any office."

The slogan in which I say that Lech Walesa is ready to run for president means that he wants to speed up reforms, so that the reforms are quicker and better, not that Lech Walesa wants to take the post of president," he said.

"My metaphor was not fully understood. It says that more has to be done in the direction of reforms."

Walesa typically is circumspect in discussing his political moves and often makes seemingly contradictory statements.



## Socialist rule ends in Greece

ATHENS, April 11, (Agencies):

Greece's first conservative government since 1981 took office today after winning elections on pledges to roll back eight years of Socialist rule.

Constantine Mitsotakis, 71, leader of the conservative New Democracy Party, was sworn in as prime minister by President Christos Sartzetakis at the presidential palace in central Athens.

The 39-member cabinet, all from the New Democracy Party, was then sworn in and the government immediately met to begin charting its new course for Greece.

Mitsotakis won 150 seats in the 300-strong Parliament in last Sunday's elections. He then secured the backing of a centrist deputy, giving him a paper-thin 151 majority and a base to start carrying out his ambitious economic programmes.

It is Greece's first single-party government since the Socialist Pasok Party lost power last June in a crushing election defeat after being dragged down by financial and political scandals.

Since June Greece has been ruled by two weak coalition governments, and decisions on all major policy, domestic and foreign, have been frozen.

Antonis Samaras, Harvard-educated and a rising star in the New Democracy Party, was named foreign minister. He held the post in an all-party government formed last November and was finance minister in a coalition government after the June election.

Witnesses said one fire began some time after 2 am Saturday, but the fire alarm sounded only at 2.30. At least two fires started independently, investigators said, supporting the theory that an arsonist was to blame.

In Copenhagen, marine experts from the three Scandinavian countries gathered to discuss tightening safety regulations, especially on board foreign-registered vessels.

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## Coalition talks in final round

EAST BERLIN, April 11. (UPI): Weary negotiators worked against the clock to finalise arrangements for establishing an East German grand coalition government before the second session of parliament tomorrow.

"We are under time pressure because there is still a great deal to be decided," an exhausted Richard Schroeder, the Social Democratic Party's parliamentary floor leader, said yesterday.

Negotiators for the Social Democrats, three conservatives parties and a three-party Liberal Alliance had agreed Monday on the general principles of a broad-based coalition government that will work out a formula to unify the country with West Germany.

Speaking during a pause in the coalition talks Tuesday evening, Schroeder said the negotiators had not discussed all policy reports prepared earlier by working groups.

"We enter this session tired but we hope the talking will not last too long now," he said.

When reporters suggested there seemed to be frequent disagreements among Social Democrats, Schroeder said, "We in the SPD have rid ourselves of the Fuehrer principle. Our faction does not lack inner-party democracy."

The party's parliamentary faction decides if we enter into a coalition. While it is possible that the faction could reject the coalition agreement, in my opinion, this is most unlikely," he said.

Under the agreement reached Monday, prime minister-designate Lothar de Maiziere's Christian Democratic Union will hold 11 ministerial posts, the Social Democrats seven, the Liberals three, the German Social Union two and the Democratic Awakening Party one.

De Maiziere said he was still seeking a consensus on several issues, but that the negotiators made "a good hit of headway" in the seventh session of the marathon negotiations.

The Christian Democrat leader said he was determined to present the cabinet list to parliament for approval at the legislature's next meeting tomorrow.

Hans-Wilhelm Ebeling of the German Social Union, the designated minister for economic cooperation, said that the negotiators had another night or two of work ahead before the list was complete.

Christian Democrat politician Gerhard Pohl appeared likely to be awarded the key post of economics minister which will oversee melding a centralised system of state-owned firms with West Germany's free market.

Pohl will also be a key player in negotiations with West Germany over replacing East Germany's nearly worthless currency with the powerful Deutsche mark.

Apparent differences emerged yesterday between Pohl and an important ally among the West German Christian Democrats, Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

Weeks ago Kohl suggested East German savers be given a 1-to-1 exchange rate for up to 2,000 East German marks.

But Pohl told the Cologne "Express" newspaper to 1-to-1 swap should be allowed for up to 30,000 marks per person.

A united Germany could belong to both Nato and the Warsaw Pact which should establish permanent ties, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze wrote in an article made public on Wednesday.

Moscow has previously ruled out Nato demands that a single Germany should be a full member of the Western alliance, and Shevardnadze's comments appear to mark a significant compromise on its previous insistence that Germany should be neutral.

**Yugoslavia:** The regional premier and six ethnic Albanian ministers have resigned in Yugoslavia's troubled Kosovo province, the newspaper Borba said on Wednesday.

Their resignations followed a crackdown by the republic of Serbia, of which Kosovo is a part, after the latest unrest in the ethnically-divided province and a Serbian takeover of its police.

They also followed reported disagreements with Kosovo's Communist Party, which is sympathetic to Serbia, over the handling of the unrest in which more than 50 have been killed since March last year.

Kosovo officials declined to comment on Borba's report.

**Hungary:** Official final results of the first free elections ending more than four decades of communist rule will be announced at a later date because of irregularities in several electoral districts, a Hungarian official said Tuesday.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Europe

**Woman marries dead fiance:** A woman whose fiance died nearly a year ago married him anyway last weekend in a ceremony that made her a wedded woman for 24 hours, town officials said Tuesday in Criquebeuf, France.

Anne-Marie Bernicot was married Saturday to Pierre-Jean Camon, for reasons she did not reveal. She was declared a widow on Sunday. (AP)

**Battle of Britain anniversary:** The aircraft that fought in the Battle of Britain are ready again, with the crackle of gunfire and the voice of wartime leader Sir Winston Churchill on recordings to remember it all 50 years ago.

"We had to fight the Germans and that was it. We were all young and we had no idea that we were making history," said one-time Spitfire pilot Desmond Sheen at a preview on Tuesday of the largest exhibition of the anniversary year. (AP)

**UK journalist fined:** A British trainee journalist was fined 5,000 pounds (\$8,200) for contempt to court on Tuesday after refusing to disclose the source of information he used in a report which was never published.

The high court also ordered 24-year-old William Goodwin to pay costs estimated at 100,000 pounds (\$164,000) in a case which caused concern to newspaper editors and the national union of journalists. (Reuters)

**Kohl advised to lose weight:** West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, already tackling the weighty problem of German unification, has one closer to home — he's too fat.

So says the head of the German Society for Nutrition (DEG) who advised the West German leader to lose about 30 kg (66 pounds). (Reuters)

**Train robbers steal \$3m:** Train robbers shot and killed a postal worker and stole \$3 million in Austrian currency from a mail car in what police said Tuesday was the biggest heist in the history of Austria's postal service.

The dramatic robbery late Monday on a regional train near Vienna prompted postal authorities to post a \$25,600 reward for the thieves. (UPI)

**Bond star wins libel suit:** Timothy Dalton, star of the latest James Bond films, accepted libel damages at a London court on Tuesday from the publishers of a North American movie magazine which suggested he was to be replaced in the role.

Dalton's lawyer, Philip Conway, told the reporter in Globe magazine that the actor could be dropped to save future James Bond films from financial disaster were untrue and had distressed and embarrassed him. (Reuters)

**Madrid "dirty" strike drags on:** Bartenders at Madrid's Barajas airport wore surgical masks on Tuesday to keep dirt piling up from a strike by cleaning staff now in its eighth day.

Stacks of newspapers, paper cups and other debris forced the airport's six restaurants to close at midnight on Monday and some planes were diverted to other cities for cleaning. (Reuters)

**Train derails, 2 dead:** A city train derailed in southern Sweden on Tuesday, killing at least two people and injuring at least 30. The national news agency TT said.

All five cars and the engine went off the tracks outside Skodinge, 60 miles (100 kilometres) southwest of Stockholm, TT said. (AP)

**Romanian sues president, leaders:** A lone Romanian is making legal history by taking the country's leaders to court.

Octavian Radulescu, an anti-communist independent on the fringes of the country's fledgling democracy, has filed two separate cases against present or former members of the interim government in power since last December's revolution.

**German spy couple arrested:** The West German authorities Monday arrested a couple who for 24 years had been leaking top-secret information to East German intelligence services, the West German Bild Daily said Tuesday.

The mass circulation daily said the West German couple, it named only as Joachim-Paul P. (45) and his wife Gisela (42), were charged with treason. (UPI)

**Heiress opens priceless art exhibit:** American Barbara Piasecka Johnson, who left Poland to seek her fortune and returned as its multi-millionaire benefactor, opened an exhibit of extra-ordinary art from her private collection Tuesday at Warsaw's Royal Palace.

The show of priceless paintings, sculpture and other objects displayed in richly appointed galleries is the latest phase in Mrs. Johnson's complex relationship with her former countrymen, who have received her both as a saviour and with scepticism. (AP)

**Court rejects Touvier bid:** An appeals court Tuesday rejected an application by Paul Touvier to be released pending his trial on charges of committing crimes against humanity while head of a pro-Nazi militia during World War II.

Touvier, 74, has been jailed since May 1989. Prior to his arrest at a priory in Nice, he had been in hiding for 16 years. (AP)

**Italian speaker's birthday celebrated:** The Italian Parliament and leftist circles in the country Tuesday celebrated the 70th birthday of the Italian Parliament speaker Linda Yuni.

**Japan may lift China sanctions:** The Japanese said Wednesday it might lift economic sanctions against China, imposed last June following the crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrators.

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu told the Diet (Parliament) that he was hopeful circumstances would change to continue humanitarian assistance to China. (Kuna)

**China, Japan talks:** Japanese and Chinese foreign affairs officials met Wednesday for annual consultations on foreign and bilateral affairs, the Japanese embassy said.

An embassy official said the two-day meeting would address both diplomatic and economic matters. (AP)



Wedding kiss

Animal trainer Kim Jun-se receives a kiss from chimpanzee Kapsik during their wedding ceremony held in a wildlife park in Suwon, south of Seoul on Tuesday. Bride Yoo Dok-hee, also an animal trainer, looks on. (Reuters)

### Grant passports

#### Maude defends UK plea for HK

HONG KONG, April 11. (Reuters): A British government minister today defended his statement that Britain had asked other countries to grant passports to Hong Kong people, even though diplomats from nations involved in saying they know nothing of the scheme.

Francis Maude, the Foreign Office minister responsible for Hong Kong, told a packed news conference he stood by his announcement yesterday that 20 countries had responded positively to Britain's request for help in granting passports to Hong Kong people facing a return to Chinese rule in 1997.

Maude said: "The fact is, of course, that policies are not made in consultees-general, but in national capitals, and there has been a process of discussion with our partners and allies going back to January and before."

"Clearly we don't go around making announcements of this sort without being clear that they reflect the wishes of the governments they reflect."

"Everything in my statement yesterday stands firm," Maude added.

Maude said yesterday that France had offered 1,500 passports to Hong Kong people employed by French companies and 19 other countries had responded positively.

**China to send students overseas:** China will send 3,000 students abroad this year, the same number as in previous years, but most will be older students on short-term programmes, an official report said Wednesday.

China has stressed that it will continue to send students overseas but in the past six months has placed new restrictions on studying abroad. (AP)

**France rebuffs China protests:** France has rebuffed fresh protests from Beijing over its sheltering of Chinese dissidents, a French official said on Tuesday.

A Chinese diplomat made the formal protest to the French Foreign Ministry on Monday, the official said. (Reuters)

**Chai requests asylum in France:** Chinese democracy dissident Chai Ling asked for political asylum from France Monday, exiled Chinese opposition sources said.

Chai arrived in France last week with her husband Feng Congde after escaping from her homeland. (UPI)

**Pyongyang warns Moscow:** North Korea's official news agency on Tuesday carried a blunt warning to the Soviet Union not to establish official ties with its South Korean archrivals.

It issued a statement by the pro-Pyongyang South Korean National Democratic Front (Hamminjon) saying: "The Soviet Union, a friend of our people, must not go the length of becoming a friend of the enemy of our people." (Reuters)

**Fair bombed, 11 killed:** A bomb buried at a fair killed 11 people, including four children, and wounded more than 40 people, a doctor said Wednesday in Bangkok.

Dr. Chatchai Nualla-or, director of Bumrun Hospital said an M-26 bomb was thrown Tuesday night at the fair attended by hundreds of villagers watching an open-air movie in Bumrung district of Ubon Ratchathani, 335 miles (535 km) east of Bangkok. (UPI)

**Quake shakes Japan:** An earthquake with a magnitude of 5.5 on the Richter scale struck Kushin and its neighbouring areas on Japan's northernmost main island of Hokkaido Wednesday, but police said there were no reports of injuries or damage.

The capital seismological agency said the quake occurred at 4:53 a.m. (0753 GMT) roughly 70 kilometres (42 miles) offshore off the city of Kushiro, which is 900 kilometres (560 miles) north of Tokyo. (AP)

"That strategy is intended precisely to remove all obstacles to negotiations and to ensure that every South African will be entitled to determine his own future. As long as that has not been reached, all the strategies of the ANC will be retained," he added.

Mandela, who arrived in Lusaka on Sunday, was speaking at a news conference at the end of two days of talks with exiled members of the policy-making ANC national executive committee.

"It is premature for anybody to expect that the ANC is going to review its strategy before the government removes all obstacles to negotiations," said Mandela, the deputy ANC president.

### Asia

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An embassy official said the two-day meeting would address both diplomatic and economic matters. (AP)

## No discussions of armed struggle at May talks with De Klerk: Mandela

LUSAKA, April 11. (Reuters): Nelson Mandela said yesterday the African National Congress (ANC) would not discuss the armed struggle with the South African government before all obstacles to negotiations on ending a apartheid era were removed.

South African President F.W. de Klerk has said he would raise the issue with the ANC, the main guerrilla group fighting to end apartheid, at exploratory talks scheduled for May 24.

"The ANC has engaged in only low-level guerrilla warfare in recent years, but vowed to continue this campaign while talking to the Pretoria government until its conditions for substantive negotiations are met.

# Lithuania accused of endangering peace

## Soviet radicals demand party split

MOSCOW, April 11. (Reuters): Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev accused Lithuania of endangering world peace with its rebellion against Moscow and said he could use his new executive powers to bring the separatist republic to heel.

The Soviet Communist Party central committee meanwhile appeared ready to crack down on radicals agitating for drastic reform in a statement that said they had no place in the party.

Gorbachev meeting Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd yesterday

day, denounced the Lithuanian Parliament which declared the republic's independence from Moscow on March 11.

"The adventurist actions of the present leadership can cost dearly to the Lithuanian people themselves, the Soviet Union and world peace as well," he said according to Tass news agency.

Spokesman for Hurd said he urged the Kremlin to open talks with Lithuania, saying he believed the republic's people had clearly expressed their wish for self-determination.



Gorbachev raises his finger as he tells a conference of the Young Communist League (Komsomol) in Moscow on Tuesday that he does not rule out the election of direct presidential rule to solve the Lithuanian crisis. (Reuters)

## Exiled king told to postpone trip

### Romania fears protests

BUCHAREST, April 11. (AP): Several political parties established in the wake of the December revolution that toppled communist rule called on exiled King Michael of Romania to postpone his visit to this country, the state Rompresa news agency reported yesterday.

Earlier yesterday Gorbachev said he might use his power of direct presidential rule in Lithuania if civilian conflict broke out there.

He did not rule out the possibility of introducing presidential rule but only as an extreme measure, if the situation there develops into a civil conflict," Tass quoted him as saying in a speech to the Komsomol, the communist youth organisation.

Under constitutional amendments passed by Parliament last month which created Gorbachev's presidential position, the Soviet leader has a right to directly rule an area "in the interests of citizens' security." But the power is not clearly defined.

The Soviet President did not describe what he meant by civil conflict in Lithuania. But Soviet media provide daily reports of tension there, and Lithuanian President Vytautas Landsbergis has said Moscow could easily create a pretext for trouble.

Gorbachev's statement came one day after a dark warning by the presidential council, an advisory body, that additional economic and political and unnamed "other" measures would be taken in Lithuania to hold the Soviet Union together.

Landsbergis responded yesterday with a telegram asking Gorbachev not to allow "ultra-rightist" forces to force his hand in Lithuania.

Lithuania, along with the Baltic republics of Latvia and Estonia, were incorporated into the Soviet Union in 1940 after the Red Army moved in.

"Military reform is overdue," Landsbergis told the government daily Izvestia. "And (that must be) radical reform, not cosmetic. That is obvious to many people these days."

"The main idea of the reform is a stage-by-stage change to a professional force smaller in numbers, but better in quality," Landsbergis said.

The two-year obligatory military service done by all Soviet young men has become a major cause of resentment, especially between the Kremlin and separatists

# 500 died of starvation in Afghanistan

ISLAMABAD, April 11, (AP): As many as 500 people died of starvation in Afghanistan's famine-ravaged northwestern provinces last month, Western diplomats said yesterday.

Humanitarian aid workers, headquartered in Pakistan's border city of Peshawar, began issuing famine warning late last year. Several relief workers predicted widespread deaths this spring if food and desperately-needed pesticides didn't reach the worst hit areas of Herat, Badghis and Faryab provinces.

Weather, war and ravenous locusts and pests have combined to cause the famine, said several aid workers.

"Refugee sources report that as many as 500 people may have died of hunger in Faryab province and that hundreds of families have fled the province because of food shortages," said a Western diplomat, who asked not to be identified further.

About 600 families reportedly fled the northern province, he said.

About 3,120 million refugees have

escaped to Pakistan since 1979 when the Soviet Red Army intervened in Afghanistan to replace one communist government with another and put down a burgeoning Muslim insurgency.

Two million other refugees have fled to Iran and most aid workers expect the majority of people leaving Afghanistan in search of food will travel to Iran which is closer than Pakistan.

Moscow withdrew its troops in 1988 but continues to send massive shipments of arms and humanitarian aid valued at

about \$1 billion a year. The United States, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and other Arab states support the Muslim insurgency, headquartered in Pakistan.

Tom Morrison, director of a Swedish-based agricultural research firm, warned that the locust and pest infestation "is very, very severe indeed."

"It is so serious that I think the only way to cure it is for everyone to leave and starve it out," he said.

Kabul's ruling communists reportedly

have 8,000 tonnes of the much-needed pesticide, but have released only 300 tonnes.

● A Soviet soldier held captive by Afghan rebels for nearly four years has been handed over to Soviet diplomats after Afghan government troops set him free.

The official Afghan Bakhtar news agency reported today that Alexy Rolovich Echonov was handed to the Soviet embassy in Kabul yesterday.

# Bashir's major cabinet shuffle

Islamic politicians promoted

CAIRO, April 11, (Reuters): Sudanese military ruler Omar Hassan Al-Bashir reshuffled his government yesterday for the first time since he seized power in June, giving two ministerial posts to Muslim fundamentalist politicians.

Bashir, head of state, prime minister and commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces, toppled the elected government of Sadeq Al-Mahdi in a coup last June, returning impoverished Sudan to military rule for the fourth time since independence in 1956.

An obscure army brigadier until June, Bashir placed Sudan under a state of emergency, suspended the constitution and dissolved Parliament, political parties and trade unions. He also suppressed the press and detained scores of politicians, trade unionists and human rights activists.

His powerful 15-man ruling Junta, widely suspected of subscribing to a militant Islamic ideology and increasingly adopting anti-Western rhetoric, has left civilian cabinet ministers little authority, a fact that Khartoum-based diplomats say has repeatedly caused friction.

The governors of the important central and Kordofan regions were also replaced by two Junta members. Colonels Suliman Mubarak, Suliman and Faisal Madani Mukhtar, respectively.

Bashir named Hussein Abu

Saleh, a leading member of the banned Democratic Unionist Party, as housing minister and gave the education brief to Abdullah Mohamed Ahmed, a member of Mahdi's Umma Party.

Both Abu Saleh and Ahmed served as cabinet ministers during the three years of Mahdi's rule. They are known to be sympathetic to the militant National Islamic Front, which has for years campaigned for the strict implementation of Islamic sharia laws.

Abu Saleh has since the overthrow of Jaafar Nimeiri in 1985 served as minister of health, education and foreign affairs, while Ahmed held the information and trade jobs under Mahdi.

Bashir named Mohammed Kibogli Saleh, a former information minister and until yesterday's reshuffle the head of the state news agency, to replace Ali Shomou as information minister.

Bashir also dismissed Finance Minister Sayed Ali Zaki, naming Abdul-Rahim Hazizi as his replacement.

Zaki was involved in a publicised row with a Junta member in charge of the economy, Navy Colonel Salah El-Din Karar, over foreign-currency regulations implemented by the military on importers. He argued that the stringent rules were responsible for the acute shortages of consumer goods.

## Parliamentary democracy

# No turning back, vows Hussein

AMMAN, April 11, (Agencies): King Hussein has vowed "there will be no turning back" from parliamentary democracy and entrusted a committee with drafting guidelines for legalising politics parties outlawed 33 years ago.

Hussein convened the 60-member national charter drafting committee yesterday and made an impassioned, televised plea for a pact assuring toleration of conflicting viewpoints.

"The new phase which we are about to begin will pave the way for the resumption of political pluralism, which is another cornerstone of democracy," the King said.

"The constitutional parliamentary life is our common choice, and the path from which there will be no turning back," Hussein vowed in a speech to the country's 3.1 million people.

The commission, named on Monday, is chaired by former prime minister Ahmed Obaidat and includes prominent Jordanians from across the political and social spectrum.

Four members are women. At least 17 members are of Palestine origin. Eleven belong to the senate and 16 to the lower house of parliament. Ten members are Islamic fundamentalists, including six Muslim Brotherhood members.

Lawyers, academics, writers and trade unionists are among those chosen to represent the views of communists, Baathists, conservative tribesmen, Muslim fundamentalists and liberals.

They have the task of drafting a charter to guide Jordan's return to political pluralism 33 years after tensions between palace and leftist politicians led to a ban on parties.

Hussein last November over-

saw Jordan's first national election since 1967, one of the freest ever held in the Arab world.

He said the charter would form "a broad and flexible framework for national action" and would be a "regulator of the state's various activities in politics, economy, security, social affairs and culture."

The 54-year-old monarch warned that without goodwill and agreement on basic concepts, "democracy turns into anarchy" and develops "fangs and talons that tear at the fabric of national unity and destroy the achievements and gains of the state."

Hussein said his July 1988 decision to renounce claims to the Israeli-occupied West Bank in favour of the Palestine Liberation Organisation led to last November's parliamentary election.

The West Bank held half the seats in Jordan's old parliament. It is not represented in the new body.

The King said four days of widespread rioting over economic problems and government policies last April led him to seek the national charter.

He said those riots showed that elections alone "would be an insufficient remedy" because Jordanians held "varying convictions on some of the precepts upon which the kingdom is founded."

The King banned parties in 1957, three years after he assumed the throne, after an unsuccessful leftist coup attempt.

A non-party parliament continued intermittently until 1974. After a 10-year hiatus, it was revived in 1984 despite the lack of

elections since 1967.

"Anyone who thinks that I was comfortable with the situation which prevailed in the absence of an elected parliament, or that I was happy bearing most of the burden of government, is mistaken," he said.

Hussein said the parties of the 1950s, when Pan-Arab forces tried to spread their influence across national borders, "were governed by the positions and dictates of their leaders from abroad."

The leaders of those parties overlooked the most important principle of democracy, namely that nobody has a monopoly of truth."

He also accused them of seeking "power at the expense of democracy and the interest of the citizens" and of violating "another tenet of political pluralism, which is to refrain from violence."

Hussein urged Jordanians to avoid what he said were violations of basic democratic values by Western societies and Israel.

"The nations that colonised most of the people of Asia and Africa for hundreds of years have the oldest democratic traditions, and the country (Israel) that occupies Palestine suppressing and terrorising its people also has a democratic system," he noted.

"This should remind us that democracy also has an ugly face which manifests itself when the people who practice democracy stray from ethical values in their dealings with other nations or when they pursue their narrow interest over the general good of society and the state."

The King repeated that "Jordan's commitment to help the Palestinian people and their just cause is a historic and fateful part of its national commitment."



Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak (left) greets US Senator Robert Dole upon his arrival at the presidential palace in Cairo yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)

# No cut in US aid to Mideast, says Dole

CAIRO, April 11, (UPI): US Senate Minority Leader Robert Dole, currently in Cairo as part of a regional tour, said yesterday he did not anticipate any immediate cutbacks in US aid to Egypt and Israel as part of a process of redistributing American aid dollars to emerging democracies in Latin America and Eastern Europe.

Dole, who is heading a five-member senate delegation, was reported as having said before arriving in Egypt that he would like to see a five percent cut in US aid to Egypt and Israel, and the funds diverted to emerging democracies in Eastern Europe.

"We are confident that we want Egypt to remain strong, and on that standpoint my suggestion was more or less to give the President of the United States some flexibility and underscore that the US has a debt of over \$3 trillion and interest payments of \$180 billion a year, and that we need to examine our programmes," Dole told reporters after talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

"But obviously, Egypt is in a unique position because of the strong friendship and their unique position in the world. I wouldn't anticipate cut backs, but we need to re-examine aid," he said.

Egypt's Foreign Minister Esmaiel-Abdel Meguid, asked if he thought developments in Eastern Europe and Latin America could affect aid to Cairo, said he didn't think it would have an impact.

"Our relations with the United States are strong, and its assistance to Eastern Europe doesn't mean it will be at the expense of other countries," Meguid said.

US officials said some \$5 billion in US aid commitments went to Israel and Egypt last year, with just over \$2 billion going to Egypt. Of US aid to Egypt, some \$170 million was in the form of food aid, mostly US wheat, \$813 million was economic aid and \$1.3 billion was military aid.

Meanwhile, Dole announced that he is to visit Iraq tomorrow to confer with President Saddam Hussein on pressing Mideast developments.

## OBITUARY in memory of 40TH DAY



Vinod B. Shah  
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March, 1990  
In memory of  
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UK press slams 'French deal'

# Hostages return

PARIS, April 11, (UPI): Three European hostages freed in Beirut by the Abu Nidal extremist group arrived in Paris and spent the night resting in a hospital, ending a drama that began as a vacation cruise on the Mediterranean 2 1/2 years ago.

The hostages, Jacqueline Valente, 34, her Belgian boyfriend Fernand Houlekins, 42, and their 2 1/2-year-old daughter Sophie, who was born in captivity, landed at a French military base outside Paris yesterday aboard a special plane sent to Beirut, for them by the French government.

Looking tired, the three hostages were greeted by family members and dozens of reporters. They left the base for a military hospital in central Paris where they spent the night. They made no statements after their arrival.

The release came after the group run by Abu Nidal, negotiated with Belgian and French officials. It also came nearly a week after Libyan leader Col Muammar Khaddafi called for the release of western hostages to mark the holy month of Ramadan.

President Francois Mitterrand thanked Gaddafi for his "determining role" in freeing the hostages, the Elysee Palace said.

It was not certain why Khaddafi made the appeal. But in Paris, diplomatic sources agreed with reports indicating yesterday's release might be related to France's decision to return three Libyan Mirage jets in March.

**Free Arab prisoners, Khaddafi tells West**

NICOSIA, April 11, (Agencies): Libyan leader Muammar Khaddafi appealed yesterday for the release of Arab political prisoners in Western countries and thanked radical Palestinians for freeing three European hostages in Beirut.

"There are prisoners and detained people from the Middle East and Arab countries jailed in some prisons in European countries and in the US for political reasons.

"I hope that they may be released, too," the Libyan news agency Jana quoted Khaddafi as saying.

Jana said Khaddafi expressed appreciation to the Fatah Revolutionary Council (FRC), led by Abu Nidal, for responding to his appeal to release the hostages.

The Khaddafi's call for freedom for the hostages comes amidst tense

the first round of US allegations against the Rabta factory.

Jana quoted Khaddafi as saying the FRC was "distancing itself from the charge of terrorism in a rapid manner."

Abu Nidal is based in Libya, but Khaddafi was reported last year to have withdrawn his support to the most wanted commando leader in the world in an attempt to improve relations with the West, which accuses the Libyan leader of supporting terrorism.

Jana quoted Khaddafi as telling the agency that Abu Nidal's group "proved its humanity being a struggling organisation defending a sacred cause." It added that he said the group "is distancing itself from the charge of terrorism in a rapid manner hoping to jettison its status in the PLO."

● The Church of England has asked Libya to help it secure the release of British hostage Terry Waite, the Libyan Ambassador to the United Nations, Ali Triki, said yesterday.

Waite has been held hostage in Lebanon since January 1987, when he was captured while on a mission for the Archbishop of Canterbury to try and free Western hostages being held in Beirut.



Abu Nidal: spokesman

**Free all: Tehran Times**

NICOSIA, April 11, (Agencies): The Tehran Times, welcoming the release yesterday of three hostages by the Libyan-backed Fatah Revolutionary Council (FRC), said today all hostages should be freed regardless of political considerations.

"The Islamic Republic has time and again announced its outright opposition to hostage-taking as the country finds it contradictory with the Islamic teachings," the Tehran Times said.

# State tender soon for afforestation project

## KISR researches hardier plants

KUWAIT'S Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Al Rashed has said that the standard specifications for landscaping agriculture have been completed.

In an interview with a local daily, Rashed said that the terms of the afforestation project had been reviewed recently and had been revised commensurate with the requirements of the five year plan.

He added that the empowered committee has studied and evaluated the gardens and public squares greenery project and a comprehensive study is being prepared

related to Kuwait National Resort in a prelude to announce the pertinent tender. The official said that the five year plan has included preparations of the necessary requirements for palm agriculture along the highways in addition to the water supply project from Iraq to Kuwait.

### Extension

He added that the Ministry of Public Works has been informed to prepare the relevant tender documents for Al Sour Garden in co-ordination with Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources.

Speaking of afforestation at Al-Safar Road Project, Rashed said that the project will be extended from Al-Safar Road project conjunction at Sixth Ring Road up to Al-Riqqa.

He added that the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources in compliance with high directives is co-ordinating with the Ministry of Planning for preparing the consulting agreement of this project in a prelude to a public tender.

Speaking of the applied research in the country, the minister said that Kuwait

Institute for Scientific Research had made a good progress in this area particularly through its contribution in landscaping the agriculture area. He added that the institute had conducted several successful researches over the capability of some plants to grow under Kuwait's climatic conditions.

He added that the institute paid special concern to research relating to pastures and greenery projects in addition to inserting new species of seeds which had been imported from well known scientific research centres.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Amiri audience

KUWAIT, April 11, (Kuna): HH the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah received yesterday morning HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah.

### Premier receives

KUWAIT, April 11, (Kuna): HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdulla received at his office at Bayan Palace Minister of Justice and Legal Affairs Dhari Abdalla Al Othman who was accompanied by Undersecretary Abdul Aziz Al Dakhil and Assistant Justice Undersecretary Khalid Al Mudhaif on occasion of their appointment.

His Highness later chaired a meeting of the higher governors' council.

The council comprises the Interior Minister, Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs, Minister of State of Planning, Minister of State for Municipal Affairs, governors, chairman of governors' councils and representatives of governors on the higher governors' council.

Sheikh Saad also resumed meetings with representatives of public welfare societies, co-operatives, professional associations and workers' trade union.

His Highness will later confer with representatives of public shareholding companies, sports associations and clubs.

### Czech envoy

KUWAIT, April 11, (Kuna): Minister of Defence Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed Al Sabah received at his office yesterday morning the Czechoslovak ambassador to Kuwait Tomas Strakos.

During the meeting they exchanged friendly talks.

### More Kuwaitis

KUWAIT, April 11, (Kuna): Undersecretary at the Civil Service Commission Abdul Aziz Al Zabani said yesterday that the number of Kuwaitis employed through the youth orientation and working force planning office since its establishment in 1983 until last February reached 7,399.

Zahran told Kuna that the office had achieved remarkable progress in guiding Kuwaiti graduates.

He noted that a shortage in private sector jobs is one of the major difficulties facing the office and added that some graduates ask for certain jobs and employers, though job opportunities are available in other places.

The Civil Service Commission's official said that the office was founded to provide information about private and public institutions seeking qualified youth and also furnishing graduates with useful professional advice on their careers.

### Mindanao support

KUWAIT, April 11, (Kuna): The Islamic World Committee appealed here today to the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) to support Filipino Muslims in the region of Mindanao and submitted a special draft plan to help people of Jammu and Kashmir demanding independence.

Chairman of the Islamic World Committee Abdullah Suliman Al Attiqi told Kuna that the people of Mindanao have the right to demand recognition of their Muslim identity and self determination like any other people, particularly that it is being ignored by the Philippines government.

The committee, based in Kuwait, urged the OIC to support the case of the Muslim people in Mindanao and recognise its legitimate representative the Islamic "Moro" front, and called on Egypt, which will host the OIC meeting next July, to refuse the Filipino special request to omit Mindanao issue from the conference's agenda.

On the other hand, the committee has submitted a special draft plan supporting people of Jammu and Kashmir resistance.

It added that the plan aims to study the refugees situation and improve their social and health conditions, and to provide them with shelter and spread Islamic teachings.



Just remember that this man has twice more the number of children in this picture.

## More the merrier for Taha

### 65 children and more on the way

ABDUL AMIR MAKKI TAHA, a Kuwaiti citizen born in 1931 said that his major hobby in life "is to produce children". He married as many as 24 women from Kuwait and others from several Arab countries. Now he has only four wives, as legally allowed by Islam, and all of them, to satisfy his hobby, are pregnant. But Taha has certainly been fortunate enough, or rather unfortunate as only 9 of the 24 women he married, gave birth to babies. The rest were divorced without children.

Now, he has 65 children, (41 of them males) and 13 grand children from his 3 daughters and 2 sons who are married. Taha stressed that the secret behind his story of many marriages is his absolute love of having children. "This has become my most favourite hobby in life," insisted the man who is now complaining of being indicted because of his "huge army" of children.

He said that some of his marriages were because of love and the rest because of "coincidence" without elaborating. But he stressed that he never got a new wife without informing her of his "full story" about marriages and love of children.

He said he has married Egyptian, Kuwaiti, Iraqi, Lebanese, Syrian, Jordanian and stateless wives from Kuwait.

### Just

Taha insists that he has always been a man of "justice" to all his wives. He said: "I have always been treating them equally in every respect and used to stay 24 hours with each one of them". He added he never preferred one wife to another and is democratic in running his house affairs. Taha said that whenever he decided to marry again, he used to inform his wives of his plan and had to face a lot of problems and obstacles. Many of the "old" wives filed cases against him. "I had to go to courts and police stations as a result," Taha said.

His marriages "project" began in 1955, when he was only 24. He got married to his first wife who was stateless living in Kuwait. He said that he was forced to divorce her after 28 years of marriage when she decided to stop "reproduction" after giving birth to "only" 10 children. He wanted more. The second wife was from outside Kuwait. He married her in 1960 and divorced her in 1983 after she gave him 9 children. He

didn't explain why he divorced her. The third wife was Iraqi. He married her in 1968, stayed with him for two years only and gave birth to one child. The fourth is also Iraqi. He married her in 1972 and she is still with him. She gave birth to 5 children and is expecting the sixth. The fifth woman is also Iraqi. She is still with him after giving birth to 12 children and is pregnant.

Taha said that he got married with the remaining 15 wives outside Kuwait and divorced them there also. He said that such marriages didn't last long and ranged from one week to one year. Although Taha enjoys his hobby, he feels sad at present. He said that he gets a pension of KWD 300 per month only and this is not enough to maintain a huge family like his. His only king-size family lives in two limited income houses. Taha painfully said that as a result of many debts on him, his houses now have no electricity, water or telephone services. All have been disconnected as he can't pay. But the man has not been convinced of the other way. He insists that he would advise his children to follow their father's footsteps.

One of his wives, the Egyptian who gave birth to 14 children and is expecting the 15th in just 18 years of marriage, said that she is very happy with her husband because he is good and has a clean heart. She said that she maintains excellent relations with the other 3 wives but did not deny some minor daily problems that happens in all homes. She said that he treats his wives equally. She said that she is fully satisfied with her husband and is very happy with him.

But one of his married daughters said that she opposes her father in repeating his experiment or advising her brothers to do the same. She said that she loves all her brothers and sisters. She expressed her dissatisfaction over the way of life her father has been living.

### Maintenance

The sixth wife is Egyptian. She holds the record of the number of deliveries she made with 14 children and is expecting the 15th soon. Thus, this wife has remained with him. The 7th is Iraqi and gave birth to 3 children and was divorced while the 8th is Egyptian. He divorced her after giving birth to 3 children. The 9th wife was married to him in 1988, gave birth to one child and is expecting.

Taha said that he got married with the remaining 15 wives outside Kuwait and divorced them there also. He said that such marriages didn't last long and ranged from one week to one year. Although Taha enjoys his hobby, he feels sad at present. He said that he gets a pension of KWD 300 per month only and this is not enough to maintain a huge family like his. His only king-size family lives in two limited income houses. Taha painfully said that as a result of many debts on him, his houses now have no electricity, water or telephone services. All have been disconnected as he can't pay. But the man has not been convinced of the other way. He insists that he would advise his children to follow their father's footsteps.

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## Firdous residents bemoan services

A NUMBER of residents in the Firdous Area have on several occasions voiced complaints against services extended to the area and called on the government to resolve their problems.

Interviewed by a local daily, they said that the area comprises old, small and dilapidated buildings and added that the area is littered with garbage, scrap vehicles and old signs stacked at different locations of the area. All these contribute negatively to human health and cause environmental pollution.

Residents expressed surprise at the transfer of the specialised clinics from the area to Riqqa which is a small area compared to Firdous.

A resident, Naser Al Zabihi stated that the area has the highest population density and consequently problems increase. He added that officials control prices at the co-operatives which are increasing on a daily basis.

He said that since moving to the area and taking possession of government houses, they have called for establishing specialised clinics. These were provided for a short while and then withdrawn and transferred to Riqqa Area. He said that Firdous is highly populated with Kuwaitis and deserves such services because they have a larger number of elderly and handicapped individuals. He added that the Firdous Area has no public gardens and does not own a youth centre.

Another resident, Mohammed Al Salal said a bridge in the area is essential as it contains many express roads and there have been many accidents involving children. He said that the police station at Firdous should be staffed with more security personnel as thefts and vandalism have increased.

### Warning against baby cauterity

DR ABDUL RAOUF AL JAWHARI, director of the Jahra Hospital, has warned mothers against using cauterization to treat their children from certain diseases or use lead for eye infections, as these methods are far from scientific treatment and can cause serious problems.

He told a local daily that 25 per cent of the Jahra population use this traditional technique, but when they fail to achieve the expected results they then seek medical attention at the hospital or any health centre in the area.

He pointed out that the hospital and health centres in the area received at least one patient suffering from the effects of cauterization, stressing that the number of normal patients has been decreasing due to the continuous efforts to spread health education among patients, however those suffering from the side-effects of cauterization are on the increase.

THE Court of Higher Appeal ordered a citizen to pay KWD 5,000 as compensation to the teacher of a primary school where the accused son was studying.

The court was told that the defendant visited his son's school and found him playing in the playground during the sports period. The defendant rushed up to the sports teacher and slapped him, beat him with his shoe on his face and threatened to deport him after publicly berating him in the presence of other pupils. The defendant further claimed that he was a policeman.

### Imprisonment

The defendant after this episode became depressed and had to be treated at the psychological hospital which resulted in the Ministry of Education terminating his services.

### From the courts

## Court orders compensation to abused sports teacher

However, the Ministry of Education referred the incident to the Court of Misdemeanours who sentenced the defendant to one month's rigorous imprisonment. On filing the appeal, the Court of Higher Appeal waived the jail sentence, but ordered the defendant to pay a fine of KWD 100.

The victim, however, filed a separate case with the Court of Misdemeanours who taking into consideration his good record and excellent report that was signed by the headmaster of the school and also taking into consideration his dismissal from the job due to his depression suffered as a cause of action by the defendant ordered compensation to be paid valued at KWD 15,000.

However, the defendant appealed the judgment to the Court of Higher Appeals and in their deliberations, the Court reduced the compensation to KWD 5,000.

## Iran to import European cigarettes

NICOSIA, April 11, (AP): More than 30 billion cigarettes are smoked in Iran each year, the head of the Iranian tobacco organisation said yesterday.

Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, quoted the unidentified official as saying that Iran will import 14 billion cigarettes in the current Iranian year which began March 21.

He said that \$165 million foreign exchange had been allocated this year for raw materials and machinery for production of 16 billion cigarettes locally.

He added that unlimited foreign exchange at "competitive prices" would be available for production and import of cigarettes.

Officially, the government keeps the rial artificially inflated at 70 rials per dollar. But the dollar is actually available only at much higher "competitive rates," which are about 10 to 20 times the official price.

Like almost all consumer goods, cigarettes are currently rationed in Iran. But American-made Marlboro and Winston cigarettes are sold alongside the locally produced "Azadi" brand at exorbitant prices on the black market.

Unable to buy whole packs at black market rates, locals often buy single cigarettes from ubiquitous vendors found throughout the larger cities.

Iran has a population of 53 million people.

## Bahrain still held in esteem by guests and residents

By Yakub Razzaque  
Arab Times staff

There is an aura of *je ne sais quoi* about this beautiful island nation that grows on you from the moment you arrive here. Just a few days after landing here a first time visitor becomes totally absorbed with Bahrain's genuine climate of friendliness, hospitality and openness. This feeling of always being welcomed lingers throughout the period of their stay. It is no wonder that some expatriates return to Bahrain either for a short visit to meet old friends and see familiar places or to work again. For indeed it is always difficult to stay away from this tiny nation indefinitely.

and of course impossible to ever forget.

### Unique

Perhaps Bahrain's unique feature is its perpetual aura of a domestic environment that successfully and completely manages to assimilate all cultures and norms of social life into a single international community. So much so that in Bahrain everyone feels like one big family whatever they do or wherever they go. The country's relatively small size always helps substantially to allow expatriates as well

as nationals to work, live and socialise with an intensity not seen in other Gulf nations.

### Hospitality

It is now common knowledge that Bahrain is held in highest esteem and affection by all expatriates who have ever been fortunate to live and work here. Even those expatriates who have worked in other Gulf states for some period and who now live here unabashedly declare that "Bahrain is the best place in the Gulf." Often you come across expatriates who express this sentiment and are not quite sure

what is it that attracts them to this country with such compassion. Expatriates who would normally not mix freely and intimately with each other in other parts of the world or even in their respective home countries, find themselves drawn together in all aspects of social and cultural occasions. Friendship is indeed made here as soon as one steps in this country as hospitality is extended to everyone regardless of race, religion, colour and nationality. Bahrain simply grows on every expatriate as time goes by. If ever

## Better land use will solve problems: KISR

### Housing woes

By Diana Abou Haidar  
Arab Times staff

If the government continues to build housing projects at the present rate, an area equivalent to that of Kuwait city will be needed by the year 2000, according to a study by Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research.

In a series of studies requested by the Supreme Housing Council, KISR investigated new venues for providing efficient housing, making optimum use of the limited land allocated for housing and cutting applicants' waiting period which could reach 10 years.

"Our studies aimed at presenting policy-makers with facts to consider when making their decisions rather than studies about design and construction of such houses," said Dr Adnan Al Adee, head of KISR's Building Department.

One option recommended by KISR was higher density housing. "By density we mean the number of houses in a hectare of land. The authority is presently building 8-12 houses per hectare which is considered very low. We recommended building 15-20 houses per hectare to make better use of the available land," explained Adee.

KISR also recommended the development of more housing projects in and around Kuwait city rather than building

# Traffic docu-drama to be aired on KTV

## Accidents kill 4,500 in 9 years

By Diana Abou Haidar  
Arab Times staff

WITH the KD 1,250 million Kuwait has lost because of traffic accidents during the last 10 years, the government could have built a thousand schools or 24 thousand houses, according to a docu-drama on traffic issues produced by the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences.

In a special preview for the press, Dr

### Agriculture college in Kuwait a must: Khalifa

THE chairman and members of the Kuwait Agricultural Engineers Society have called for the establishment of a college for agricultural studies to meet the increasing need for qualified cadres to operate in this field.

The society chairman Mohammad Khalifa highlighted the pioneering role played by the society since its establishment, reviewing its various vital activities and attempts to deepen the co-operation between Kuwaiti agricultural engineers and their Arab and foreign counterparts. He added that the need for enhanced capabilities stems from rapid expansion in the field of agricultural and greening projects.

He said that the society encouraged agricultural training through the established official venues, while laying considerable emphasis on the exchange of expertise, and mutual visits to review the achievements made in this field in different countries.

He added that the sole aim of the society is to develop the agricultural sector in the country and optimise productivity, in order to ensure continued progress and success to the national agricultural march.

Mohammed Al Fayed, a member of the society, said that the society strives through the information, cultural and social committees, and via research to carry out its plans and spread agricultural awareness and education to help "optimise" the related development process.

He said the society has been successful in making considerable progress despite its young age, adding that it seeks to contribute actively to improving the level of agricultural output in the country and optimise productivity in co-operation with all related agencies.

He added that the society spares no effort to utilise Gulf expertise in this field and seek to exchange concepts with the Arab countries in the field of growing barley and other plants that are capable of growth under local weather conditions.

The editor-in-chief of the Agricultural Engineer magazine in the society, Khadar Al Mazzedi said that the information and cultural committee at the society adopted several recommendations over the symposia and lectures so far held which stressed the need to impose constraints on imported foods and products with similar equivalents produced locally, in order to encourage local industries and improve the quality.

He said that the committee advocates the rationalisation of using insecticides whereby to protect the consumer from potential hazards.

Saleh Jassim, director of KFAS' Scientific Culture Directorate, said that the 80-minute production titled "Street Wars" aims at presenting the issue of traffic in Kuwait from all possible angles and suggesting solutions. "We did our best to be objective and not to direct any blame or accusations at anybody in particular."

Jassim added that the production is a result of two years of research on the subject in co-operation with a number of ministries and other concerned institutions.

"Traffic accidents are the No. 2 killer in Kuwait after heart disease," said Abdul Mohsen Hayat, "Street Wars" scriptwriter and director adding that in the years from 1979 to 1988, such accidents have caused 4,500 deaths and 21,000 injuries.

#### Death rate

According to the documentary, there is a car for every four people in Kuwait and the rate of accidents is one of the highest in the world killing and injuring mostly young people.



Aids testing

The head of the virology laboratory at Kuwait's Ministry of Public Health Dr Wedad Al Nageeb said that his laboratory is conducting about 450,000 tests related to Aids.

In an interview with Al Seyassah, the official said that these tests are mainly being conducted on expatriates to ensure that they are free of the Aids virus. He added that his laboratory has been designed to perform tests and diagnosis on all Aids related diseases and said that the lab extends its services to all hospitals in the country.

Moreover, the virology unit at the Bacteriology Department of the Faculty of Medicine of Kuwait University is undertaking identical tests to serve the medical college at Mubarak Al Kabeer Hospital. Additionally, it conducts scientific activities on behalf of the World Health Organisation in Kuwait.

The virology lab had been established at the beginning of the 1970s with only one technician. Presently, the team consists of four specialists, two chief technicians, 17 technicians and three administrative employees. The lab conducts tests for all kinds of Aids virus, including HIV II, liver virus and respiratory and digestive systems. It also undertakes tests of mumps and child paralysis.

Speaking of the prospective development of the laboratories sector, the official said that it is bound to witness an increase due to the increase in patients and viruses. He commented that during the past 15 years, about 20 new diseases have been discovered.

He said that Aids tests are conducted in secrecy. However, if the patient proves positive, other tests are conducted and in the final analysis if confirmed are referred to authorities for action.

## Privatisation will activate economy, says Sharhan

THE Minister of Communications Abdullah Al Sharhan has said that the government is sparing no effort to activate the national economy in line with the plans and strategies enforced. He cited as an example that this is reflected in trying to assign some vital services to the private sector.

He told local daily that the ministry is planning to give up its public communications services to a private company, in compliance with recommendations adopted in the wake of a study conducted with the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research in 1988 seeking to locate problem areas in this sector.

He added that this concept is intended to reduce the delay caused by the inevitable red tape procedure characterising government operations, even in advanced countries of the world, stressing that the assignment of a private company to take over this service sector will enable the ministry to carry out its related

development plans with optimum results.

The ministry has submitted a memorandum to the Council of Ministers requesting initial approval for the transfer of this service sector to a private company. The memo has been referred to the Higher Planning Council for study and recommendations before final endorsement by the Council of Ministers, the official said.

He added that the ministry will, in a period of a year, prepare a detailed study of this project covering all related economic, social and security considerations.

Sharhan pointed out that the proposed company will be provided with all needed modern equipment, including a satellite station, telecommunication tower, telephone network and others. Additionally, a special group of maintenance specialists will take over the provision of regular servicing and operation,

of installations in different urban locations in the country.

He added that other small private companies will be set up to operate under the main proposed one which will concentrate on individual ownership to ensure optimisation of services.

The ministry will set up a special department to supervise the operation of the company and bifurcate companies, which will be in control of all technical specifications of the equipment and machines used by the company. The department will also supervise the charges endorsed by the company for its services to ensure that no profit-oriented operation takes over the main-line duty of the company.

He said that more control will be possible over nuisance calls, stressing that the ministry will be in charge of relations between Kuwaiti and world countries, regarding international conferences, organisations and others, as well as Kuwait's relations with Arab countries.

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Sharhan pointed out that the proposed company will be provided with all needed modern equipment, including a satellite station, telecommunication tower, telephone network and others. Additionally, a special group of maintenance specialists will take over the provision of regular servicing and operation,

The company will initially start out with full government ownership, but will gradually be sold out to shareholders, adding that the related sub-companies will be owned by the mother company to an extent of 20 to 25 per cent and that the company will secure its revenues from the rental of equipment, exchange offices and networks.

He said that there are 6700 employees currently operating in this field at the ministry and they will be given intensive training to qualify them for work at the proposed company.

This step is not new in the region as the UAE, Bahrain and recently Oman have adopted the same policy, Sharhan said.

Meanwhile, officials at Kuwait Municipality will hand over all cleaning duties to national companies as of next July. Services will include all Kuwait areas, in addition to residential areas, internal public and external roads.

## Haj restriction to continue

RIYADH, April 11. (Kuna): Saudi Interior Minister Prince Naif Bin Abdul Aziz said last night that the Saudi authorities will keep in place restrictions on the number of pilgrims expected to flock to the holy sites in Makkah and Madinah during this summer Islamic hajj season.

Prince Naif said that the circumstances that led to the

introduction of restrictions two years ago, continued to exist and warrant such measures.

The Saudi top official called on all citizens and expatriates to give the chance for their Muslim brethren who have not performed the religious duty and called on them to follow regulations and help preserve public order.

## Assistance for Arab students

KUWAIT, April 11. (Kuna): The International Islamic Charitable Authority (IICA) signed an agreement yesterday with the international establishment for assisting Arab students.

The agreement, it was announced, emphasises on preparing medical staff for hospitals in the

West Bank and Gaza Strip.

IICA Chairman Yousef Al Hajji and Chairman of the establishment Dawoud M. Al Salih signed the agreement which will take care of the costs of Arab physicians wishing to offer their services to Palestinians in the occupied territories.

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## Kuwait drug problem snowballing: Salem

1,260 addicts receiving attention

LONDON, April 11. (Kuna):

Kuwait's Interior Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah yesterday proposed adopting strict international measures against countries involved in training or supplying drug traffickers with weapons or other means that could complicate the problem.

Sheikh Salem, addressing the international conference for combatting drugs, further proposed that the London declaration of the conference should include asking all world countries to ratify the 1988 UN-sponsored agreement on fighting drugs, and to form higher national committees to combat drugs with full jurisdiction.

The minister proposed urging drug producing countries to co-operate with the international community to terminate the problem, improving rehabilitation programmes for addicts, intensifying media campaigns to arrest international drug traffickers, boosting role of family, school and religion in combatting the phenomenon, restricting movement of drug convicts and finally exerting more efforts in exposing money laundering which is best used by the international drug dealers.

Speaking on the issue, an official oil source told Al Sevass that no cost overruns will be permitted, though he declined to elaborate.

Another oil source praised the measures instituted by the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation and commented that setting up of the complex will constitute a positive step in economic performance and is based on important dimensions for the future of the Kuwait economy.

Basically, he said that the impetus towards this project stems from prolonged experience with the "roller-coaster-ride" in the international oil market prices and the inherent effects of these fluctuations on the economies of the producing countries.

He added that Kuwait further co-operated with other world countries and bodies in this regard and noted that Kuwait was about to finalise its ratification procedures of the Vienna Agreement on drug trafficking that was adopted by the UN conference in December 1988.

Sheikh Salem underlined that Kuwait's participation in that conference reflected the increasing concern of the country, topped by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed, to strengthen international co-operation in fighting drugs which further

interprets the Islamic religion's teachings.

A Kuwaiti paper earlier affirmed that the production of drugs and its impact on today's society has become a cause of "serious concern" to the world and urged for international co-operation to overset a solution to the problem.

In a paper presented to the world ministerial drug summit, the document said that the Kuwait government has taken certain measures in this respect, mainly based on Islamic teachings.

The paper noted that drugs did not become a menace in Kuwait until five years ago, when the number of drug offenders started to rise. In the period of January 1985 till December of 1989, 1,533 persons were arrested on drug-related charges, according to the paper.

It indicated that in order to curb the drug problem, the Kuwaiti government has passed strict laws, noting that sentences can reach up to 15 years behind bars for drug possession and trafficking.

The government, it pointed out, has established clinics to provide help for users and also a national committee to promote public policies and plans for dealing directly with drug problems.

Internationally, the document pointed out, Kuwait is totally behind efforts to combat this problem, "and we are applying, wherever possible, the rules of the United Nations convention against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances adopted in Vienna in 1988."

Hoping that the London gathering would emerge with an international strategy to contain the drug problem, the paper proposed that certain matters will be included in the final declaration of the meetings.

### Training will improve air security, says Shmailan

WASHINGTON, April 11, (Kuna): Kuwait's delegate to the 45th annual conference of the International Federation of Air Pilots' Association briefed a specialised private group here on current and future security procedures and measures in international aviation.

Flight engineer Ayed Shmailan, who represented the Kuwait Aircraft Engineers and Pilots Association at the Ifalpa conference together with ground engineer Anwar Al Yaqoub, was invited to brief members of the private-owned "Academy Group Inc." which deals with the safety and security of transportation world-wide, including aviation security. The organisation is a pioneer in new procedures in airline security.

In a clear recognition of Kuwait's role, Ifalpa last week adopted recommendations made in a study that had been submitted by the Kuwait Aircraft Engineers and Pilots Association.

In his address, Shmailan focused on the importance of both training and procedures that could greatly improve security in aviation in the future.

As the five-day annual conference of Ifalpa came to a close yesterday, Shmailan also received an invitation by New Zealand Airline Pilots Association to address members in New Zealand on aircraft and airport security based on Kuwait's study and its experience in this field. A future date for the visit will be arranged.

Last week, the Arab airline delegates to the Ifalpa meeting, acting at the invitation of the Kuwait Aircraft Engineers and Pilots Association, adopted a decision calling for the revival of the pan-Arab federation of Arab airline pilots associations, which has been inactive for a number of years. The first meeting is expected to be held in Cairo at the end of May.

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### Honour ceremony

The Arts College at the University of Kuwait organised a honour ceremony for the former dean of the Arts College, Dr Abdulfah Al Muhammed, the former deputy dean, Dr Yousef Al Motawa, former head of the guidance and supervisory office at the college, Dr Zain Abdul Maqsoor.

The party was held at the University Club in Shuwaikh. It was attended by the Undersecretary of the Higher Education Ministry, Dr Maed Al Haroun, the university rector, Dr Shueib Abdullah, the dean of

the Arts College, Sulaiman Sadoon Al Bader and a number of deans and teaching staff members at the university.

Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, at the Arts College, Dr Nourya Al Nouri delivered a speech at the beginning of the party praising the efforts of the three honoured former university officials. Dr Sulaiman Al Bader also spoke on the occasion.

The honoured former officials were presented with shields.

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## EDITORIALS

## ARAB TIMES

## Thought for today

IT IS not enough to help the feeble up, but to support him — William Shakespeare, English playwright (1554-1616).

## Mitsotakis to head govt Conservatives win Greek polls

ATHENS. (Reuter): Greece's conservatives plan to shake things up, making quick and drastic changes in foreign and economic policies, when they form a government this week for the first time in eight years.

The New Democracy Party won national elections on Sunday and, with the backing of a centrist deputy, now controls 151 seats in the 300-member Parliament.

This should enable conservative leader Constantine Mitsotakis, 71, heading Greece's first single party government since last June, to push through the sweeping economic and political reforms he has campaigned for over the past year.

Mitsotakis wants to reverse almost every policy cherished by Andreas Papandreou, socialist prime minister from 1981 to June 1989 and a bitter personal rival for the past 25 years.

His priorities include:

**Priorities**  
— Reaching a new accord on US military bases, threatened with closure in November by a previous socialist government.

— Establishing full diplomatic relations with Israel.

— Making a decision on extraditing Palestinian commando Mohammed Rashid to the United States where he is accused of bombing a civilian airliner in 1982.

— Cutting at least 300 to 400 billion drachmas (\$1.8 billion to \$2.5 billion) from the 1990 budget as the first step towards bringing big public deficits under control.

"These decisions will be taken quickly," Mitsotakis told Reuters in a pre-election interview.

Papandreou's Panhellenic Socialist Movement (Pasok) woo power in 1981 partly by exploiting strong anti-US sentiments and promising to send the American military home.

He pursued a staunchly pro-Arab policy, turned down requests by European Economic Community (EEC) countries to extradite suspected terrorists and irritated EEC partners with his maverick stands and demands for money.

"Greece must conform to the new global structure. Greece has to fit into the world as it is now shaping itself," Mitsotakis said, referring to the political changes in Europe and plans for a single, integrated EEC market in 1992.

Greece's EEC partners were exasperated by the weak coalition governments which emerged after inconclusive general elections in June and November last year. All decisions were frozen and the economy steadily deteriorated.

In an indication of his impatience, EEC Commission President Jacques Delors wrote to the government during the election campaign saying that "immediate and drastic" steps must be taken to save the economy from collapse.

### Abolish

Mitsotakis has pledged to abolish regulations imposed on the private sector by the socialists and to make full-scale assault on government spending, which soared under socialist rule.

His election victory and economic programme triggered an explosive rise on the Athens Stock Exchange. The general share index jumped 14.74 per cent from Friday's close to hit a record high of 771.04 points.

When Mitsotakis takes over as prime minister later this week his most ambitious plans will be limited by the one-seat margin underpinning his government.

But it will be the first time in 18 months that Greece has had a stable government with no elections looming on the horizon.

The tough lawyer from Crete said he was waiting for President Christos Sartzetakis to tell him to form a government. It will be his first time as prime minister.

### Governed

New Democracy last governed in 1981. It joined coalitions with limited powers after elections last June and November.

Papandreou's socialists terminated the American-Greek bases accord in December 1988 and the Americans had until November 1990 to leave unless a new deal was signed.

Greece is the only European Economic Community country which does not have full relations with Israel. At present Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation have equal status with diplomatic missions in Athens. But not embassies.

Mitsotakis said he would tackle heavy state deficits with budget cuts, including an immediate reduction of 300 to 400 billion drachmas (\$1.8 to \$2.5 billion).

The budget in 1989 reached two trillion drachmas (\$12.5 billion), or 22 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP). Greece's total output of goods and services.

Mitsotakis also plans to raise revenues by selling state industries and launching an investment programme.

### Orator

He has been known for years as the only man who can stand up to Papandreou, a brilliant orator, in parliamentary debates.

But he has been accused of using strong-arm tactics to unify New Democracy, which was in disarray when he took over after the party was defeated by the socialists in 1981.

Determined to break the socialists' eight-year grip on power, he stunned many supporters after inconclusive elections in June by forging an unprecedented coalition government with his one-time bitter foes in a communist-led alliance.

His gamble that the right-left coalition, which ordered Papandreou to stand trial on corruption charges, would win him a majority failed to pay off in a November election.

Born to a prominent political family, he joined resistance forces on his home island of Crete in World War II and fought the occupying Germans, who twice sentenced him to death.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

1545 — France's King Francis I orders massacre of Vaudois Protestants.

1621 — French forces under King Louis XIII set out to crush Huguenot rebellion.

1654 — Ireland and Scotland are united with England.

1815 — Austria declares war on Joachim Murat, king of Naples, for occupying Rome.

1850 — French troops restore Pope Pius IX and occupy Rome.

1861 — US civil war starts as Confederates (South) take Fort Sumter in Charleston, South Carolina.

1945 — US president Franklin D. Roosevelt dies at age 63, and Harry S. Truman is sworn in as his successor.

1957 — West German nuclear physicists refuse to co-operate in producing or testing of atomic weapons.

1961 — Soviet Union puts first man in space — Cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin makes safe landing after one orbit of earth.

1963 — First armed attack by Indonesian forces on Malaysia.

1966 — US bombers carry out their first strikes against North Vietnam.

1975 — Cambodia's premier Long Boret announces that military government is in charge in his country and will continue fighting communists.

1986 — Commander of "Khalistan Commando Force" terrorists says his rebels are recruiting guerrilla army to battle Indian military for an independent Sikh nation in Punjab state.

1987 — Soviet media reports that two cosmonauts walking in space successfully linked space module to their orbital space station Mir.

1989 — Relentless artillery battles rage between Christians and Muslims as Lebanon's civil war enters its 15th year.

# Le Pen woos French voters

## Mainstream parties running scared

PARIS. (Reuter): Serge Fargeau stands out a mile at meetings of the National Front, the French party that wants to repatriate non-European immigrants.

The black former beauty queen from Guadeloupe, a French possession in the Caribbean, is hardly a typical member of the most successful extreme right movement in Western Europe.

A more plausible portrait of a front activist might include the following features: white male, middle-aged, wears blazers, likes plain talk and hard liquor, served in the armed forces and has never forgiven the political establishment for giving Algeria its independence in 1962.

### Admiration

But in common with a growing number of French voters, Fargeau's main reason for joining the front is her admiration for its charismatic leader, Jean-Marie Le Pen.

"All politicians are liars and I think the only one telling the truth is Mr Le Pen," said Fargeau, who won the coveted "Miss France Overseas" crown in 1982 and now manicures nails for a living in eastern France.

It was lamentable, she complained, that Le Pen's support among French West Indians was so tiny as to be unmeasurable.

"It's because of the media campaign against us which makes people think we are racist," she said in Nice, the wealthy Mediterranean resort where 2,500 front activists came to pay their homage to Le Pen this month.

The front's congress was the best-attended in its 18 years of existence, reflecting a surge in popularity which is alarming both the socialist government and the centre-right opposition.

The mood in Nice was buzzing with confidence as delegates thronged the bar capped each other's tales of breakthroughs in local elections.

The front's obsessions were on display at stalls rented by right-wing publishers, veterans' associations and groups linked to the traditionalist fringe of the Roman Catholic church which Pope John Paul has disavowed.

"Should Homosexuals be Burned?" asked one book title.

Young women distributed literature purporting to prove that France was overrun by eight million "foreigners" — front code for immigrants from Algeria, Morocco and black Africa.

The government says there are about four million immigrants in the population of 57 million.

Offering a brand of right-wing patriotism that is infused with antipathy for poor immigrants from France's former colonies, 61-year-old Le Pen has defined prediction that he would fade away.

### Stock

The front's stock has never been higher. Its vote at almost every important by-election this year has risen sharply and a respected opinion poll in April showed Le Pen was liked by 17 per cent of the communists, three per cent up on his March score.

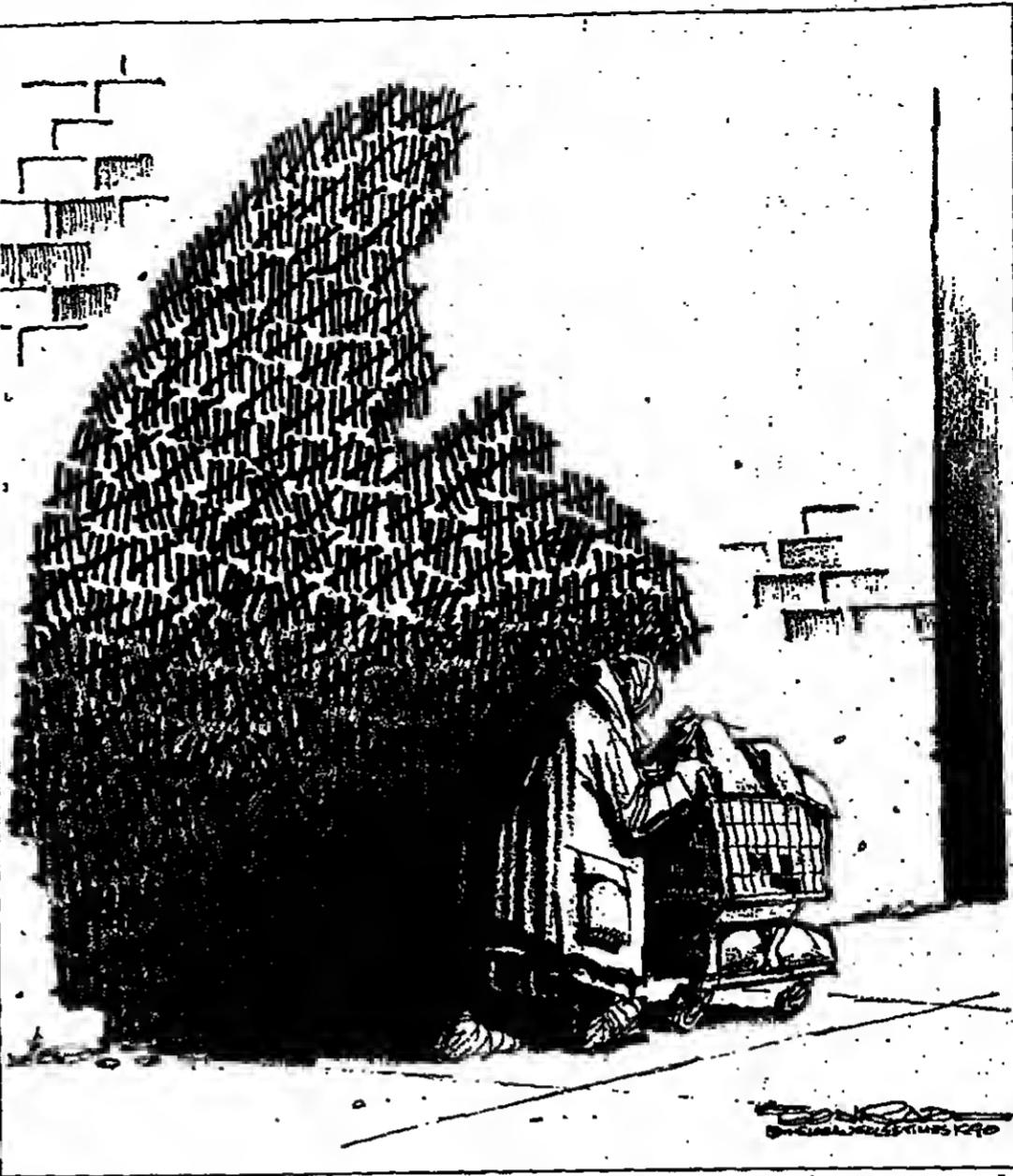
Last December the front captured its only seat in the 577-member National Assembly, winning in the drab northern town of Dreux on an anti-immigrant, law and order platform.

The result showed that a 1988 change in the electoral law, designed to keep fringe parties out of Parliament, was no longer an insurmountable obstacle for the front.

"The big novelty is that the front now appears to more and more voters as the main opposition to the left," said Stephane Rozes of the Sofres polling company.

The front is taking voters from both sides of the spectrum.

Its "France first" image and blunt calls for many immigrants to be sent home appeal to traditional



supporters of the RPR and UDF opposition parties, which have moved to the liberal centre on most issues.

The once-loyal communist vote is collapsing but only partly due to events in Eastern Europe. Some of the front's best scores this year have been in "Red belt" working class suburbs around Paris where communist mayors have clung to power but at the cost of pandering to anti-immigrant sentiment.

But many analysts think the front's secret weapon is the mounting contempt for established politicians.

"There is a sense in which a vote for the front appears to be a punch in the nose for established parties," said Rozes.

Pascal Perrineau, a political science professor in Paris, agreed.

"The traditional right and left parties are in a state of such disintegration and internal division that the National Front appears to be the only united party," said Perrineau, a leading expert on Europe's extreme right.

### Immigration

In a state resembling panic, the RPR and UDF this month decided to toughen their language on immigration and proposed a more restrictive nationality code.

Even the government had had to admit the size of the Le Pen phenomenon and agreed to strengthen France's defences against illegal immigrants and bogus applicants for political asylum.

In Nice Le Pen held his audience spellbound with a 90-minute speech during which he linked crime and immigration.

He avoided any mention of Jews after a series of remarks in the past two years for which he is now being prosecuted by the government.

But Jewish groups condemned the presence in Nice of Franz Schoenhuber, leader of West Germany's ultra-right Republicans and a former soldier in Hitler's Waffen SS. Front delegates roared their acclaim when Le Pen held his main ally in the European Parliament.

Despite the front's stated goal of widening its political platform to attract more voters, the subject inevitably returned to race and immigration.

A debate on social problems was quickly narrowed down to blaming newcomers for the crime rate and for taking jobs, houses and welfare benefits.

Bruno Megret, one of the front's top five, explained the front's new policy on preserving the environment.

"Ecology is about protecting endangered species like the French people," he said.

## Letters to the editor

### PAC veterans

BUCHAREST. (Reuter): The return home of Romania's ex-King Michael, dethroned and banished into exile by the communists 42 years ago, could spark curiosity rather than dreams of a constitutional monarchy.

After Stalinist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu was overthrown and executed last December, the 68-year-old former king said restoration of the monarchy would be the best thing for Romania.

As a constitutional monarch, one can guarantee continuity, safeguard the constitution and ensure political stability," he said.

members of Approb and has gone to the extent of challenging their credentials as Pakistani and Muslim.

While Approb members are well able to defend themselves but I would like to take this opportunity to point out to the writer and his cohorts that all members of Approb executive board are businessmen or professionals of the highest repute. The fact that the letter writer made them a target for his insane criticism is only an evidence of his own intellectual bankruptcy.

The writer's reference to Approb as an organisation of individuals with questionable characters is very much regretted.

The founding Approb members in my personal view are amongst the cream of the Pakistani society. It is very unfortunate and I publicly apologize from the Approb executive board and the members that due to my association with the PAC, some cheap publicity conscious people have tried to spoil and distort the image of Approb.

As far as the actions of Approb are concerned, I am under no authorisation to speak on their behalf and leave the matter with the Approb to clarify their position. One thing I would like to make clear is that during my more than two decades of professional career in Kuwait this is the first time that I have come across with an association like Approb which unlike others have been a perfect symbol of integrity and morality.

The letter confused two totally different organisations under the pretext of criticising the seminar held by Approb. The writer is actually venting his esteem on the Musical Nite. The reason for the frustration on the part of the writer is obvious. He is the so-called president of the PAC and obviously feels that the PAC veterans are trying to undermine their highly successful programme.

There is clear disjunction between PAC and Approb. The PAC is a much older organisation while Approb is a new one. No doubt some of PAC members are also Approb members but they hold no position in the decision making of Approb.

PAC is purely a cultural group while Approb is geared towards more academic and educational activities along with benevolent programmes.

### Misdeeds

Not content with attributing all sort of misdeeds to the organisers of the PAC veterans, the writer has levelled very serious allegations against the founding

They distributed the PAC offices arbitrarily on a dinner table and started using the PAC banner at indoor "mushairas" and other domestic programmes.

These people also used the PAC banner for two "ghazal programmes" held at a 4-star hotel, but according to my information, these programmes were sponsored by the relatives of the visiting Pakistani singers and there was a dispute over the use of invitation cards, which discreetly appeared in Arab Times.

The Pakistani Arts Circle veterans are now reorganising the PAC to revive its tradition of presenting colourful cultural programmes for the benefit of the large Pakistani community in Kuwait.

The PAC veterans are naming an organising committee to launch a membership campaign, which will be followed by the election of a democratically chosen organising committee to run the PAC to avoid usage of offices for self-aggrandizement.

Abdus Sattar Ghazali, Member of organising committee, Pakistan Arts Circle (veterans), Kuwait.

### Another organization

SIR: Yet again another fig of division is unfurled another organization Approb takes birth amidst great fanfare and publicity in a hotel with thousands of diners spent to feed the already over-fed people.

Each time a party or organisation is formed there is always a tall claim of helping the poor (living in Kuwait?) Pakistanis. It is unfortunate that we people instead of trying to merge the already existing so many political/social charitable organizations in Kuwait under one cohesive umbrella of Pakistan embassy, continue to multiply unabated just for the sake of achieving personal gains, projection and publicity.

The cause of Pakistan and its people is well served if we all organise and united under one flag — Pakistan.

Naseem Yahya Mir, Safat.

ALL Letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

# Israel mowing houses to quell 3-year uprising

SURIF, Occupied West Bank. (Reuter): Israel has been destroying Palestinian houses as a means of repressing the uprising in the occupied territories. Palestinian and Israeli human rights groups say.

# BUSINESS & FINANCE

## Energy file

### Iran gas exports to USSR resume

NATURAL gas exports to the Soviet Union are the cornerstone of Soviet-Iranian economic co-operation, according to Minister of Economics and Financial Affairs Mohsen Nourbakhsh.

Iran's gas exports to the Soviet Union were resumed after an interruption of 10 days from Astara, Iran, yesterday. The ceremony was attended by senior officials from the two sides.

Nourbakhsh told the press that the resumption of gas sales to Moscow would help Iran implement nine major projects, adding "a total of \$6 billion will be injected into these projects which are to be implemented with Soviet collaboration."

The minister said during the current five-year plan \$23 billion in hard currency had been earmarked for energy, industry, agriculture and telecommunications. With further investment in the future, the country would become self-sufficient in various steel products and raw materials required for industrial, petrochemical and household appliance manufacturing units.

Nourbakhsh indicated that the five-year plan would help the country enjoy a positive balance of payments. He also added that \$23.9 billion would be raised in taxes this year, three times the amount collected last year.

■ Corporen, an affiliate of the Venezuelan National Oil Company (PDVSA), is experimenting with compressed natural gas as a cheaper, cleaner alternative to gasoline, diesel and fuel oil, using a small fleet of company trucks, according to officials in Caracas.

Nazir said during testing at a depth of 8,843 to 8,945 feet the oil gushed

at a rate of 2,800 barrels per day. Some 600,000 cubic meters of gas was also produced.

The oil was sweet — with no or little sulphur — and light with 42.4 API.

American Petroleum Institute's special gravity.

Light and sweet crudes fetch better market prices as they yield more gasoline when refined and contain little pollutant sulphur.

Nazir told SPA that the company planned to continue drilling on the site to assess the dimensions of the new oilfield.

The company has discovered three oilfields, or part of a giant new oilfield as some experts claim, in the centre of the Arabian peninsula, south of Riyadh, since last year.

All three wells, Al-Hawatih-1, Dilam-1 and Al-Raghif-1 yielded a sweet, light crude oil.

### New Saudi oilfield Sweet crude

NICOSIA, April 11, (Reuters): The Saudi Arabian Oil Co. (Saudi Aramco) has discovered an oilfield which yields a sweet, light type of crude oil in the area where similar discoveries were made recently, Saudi Aramco's Oil Minister Hisham Naser told the Saudi Press Agency (SPA).

SPA late yesterday quoted the minister as saying the new Saudi Aramco well, located east of Hawatih and southeast of Riyadh, was called Naim-1 and was spudded on February 14.

Naser said during testing at a depth of 8,843 to 8,945 feet the oil gushed

at a rate of 2,800 barrels per day. Some 600,000 cubic meters of gas was also produced.

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### NEWS IN BRIEF

**Gulf oil investment moving to downstream:** The major Middle East oil producing nations are shifting investment towards downstream crude processing ventures from infrastructure and foreign portfolio investment, a private Japanese research body said.

Assets owned by Gulf oil producing nations increased in the 1980s despite lower crude prices, the Japanese Institute of Middle Eastern Economics said in a report.

In the past, investment funds mainly went into foreign portfolio investment and infrastructure, it said, adding that they are now going into such projects as joint refinery ventures between Saudi Arabia and Teaco, (Reuters)

**Arab financing firms meet:** Representatives of 30 national Arab financing institutions opened a two-day meeting in Abu Dhabi, Monday, to discuss rules and regulations governing the Arab trade financing programme.

The meeting is being held under the chairmanship of Osama Faqih, board chairman of the newly-established programme whose \$500-million capital is being provided by the Arab Monetary Fund (AMF) and other agencies.

The meeting is also to focus on the nature of the relationship between the financing agencies and the programme. Fifty percent of the financing will come from the AMF (Opecal).

**IMF team due in Egypt:** An IMF team was due in Cairo on Tuesday for negotiations on sweeping economic reforms with Egypt showing signs of a policy split on the fund's demands.

"There is no way out for Egypt but to sign a letter of intent with the IMF," a prominent economist said.

President Hosni Mubarak's government has moved cautiously towards meeting a key International Monetary Fund (IMF) demand — privatisation of the huge public sector.

But some ministers and officials apparently have their doubts and Cairo's official newspapers have in the past week quoted contradictory remarks by ministers. (Reuters)

**Credit Suisse holds Lion Bank:** The Jews of Credit Suisse are closing around Switzerland's oldest bank, Bank Leu or "Lion Bank."

The bank, which announced on Tuesday that it was holding the parent which has Credit Suisse as its flagship, planned to take a majority in a new holding firm which would own Leu.

When Leu broke the news of its own resignation, analysts sensed that rarest of Swiss financial headlines: a takeover.

The bank has been hunting for a partner but has said it will delay recommending shareholders to accept CS's offer until May 10, when negotiations have finished. (Reuters)

**Iraq using oil money to pay debt:** Iraq is repaying more of the \$60 billion yen (\$3.18 billion) it owes Japanese firms by diverting additional proceeds of direct crude oil sales to Japan under existing contracts, oil industry sources said.

They said Iraq's State Oil and Marketing Organisation (Som) has started to transfer 45 per cent of its earnings from oil sales to Japan since February, up from 25 per cent previously.

Mitsubishi Corp, Marubeni Corp, Sumitomo Corp and Toyo Menka Kaushi Ltd together account for 60 to 70 per cent of the debts, the sources said. (Reuters)

**US firm urges to investigate violations:** Boone Corp., A US investment company formally asked Japan's Fair Trade Commission yesterday to launch an investigation into the business practices of Japanese automakers for possible violations of the law.

Owner of the company, T. Boone Pickens, the largest shareholder in Konto, a leading Japanese auto parts maker, said that leading Japanese automakers such as Toyota, Nissan and Honda have been pressuring Japanese auto parts suppliers belonging to their corporate groups to lower their prices. (Kuwait)

Ross also said BP's oil-spill preparation contributed to the company's luck.

We had been preparing for a calamity like this one, he said. "Our latest full-fledged disaster drill in BP America took place hardly a month before the actual spill. That gave us good training and leverage when the real thing occurred."

The hull of a supertanker contracted by BP, the American trader, was pierced by an anchor.

Ross said US Coast Guard officials were still investigating the cause of the accident. But government officials worked quickly to help BP respond to the disaster, he said.

In this spill, we escaped the sad trap of jurisdictional disputes and competing government orders during that crucial early time when we had to act, he said.

BP was fortunate that the spill occurred in an area where cleanup workers and equipment were readily available, Ross said. He contrasted Huntington Beach with the remote Prince William Sound and Gulf of Alaska beaches that were fouled by Exxon Valdez oil.

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BP was fortunate that the spill occurred in an area where cleanup workers and equipment were readily available, Ross said. He contrasted Huntington Beach with the remote Prince William Sound and Gulf of Alaska beaches that were fouled by Exxon Valdez oil.

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## Stock trading manners okayed

WASHINGTON, April 11. (UPI): A world-wide securities group yesterday endorsed procedures to facilitate international stocks trading by bringing markets closer to global standards of clearance and regulation.

The International Councils of Securities dealers and self-regulatory associations representing self-regulatory organizations and dealers in the United States, Britain, Canada, France and Japan, endorsed the procedures at the conclusion of a two-day conference on world equity markets.

In a luncheon address to the councils, Federal Reserve Board vice-chairman Manuel Johnson voiced his support for the "coordination of the rules of the game" sought by the organization.

Johnson also said that the Fed favours both a unification of securities regulatory structures in the United States and a financial system that would allow securities companies and banks to operate within each other's presently exclusive spheres of activities.

As long as banks' subsidiaries have no access to resources from their parent organizations, which can rely on the safety net of Federal Deposit Insurance Programme and the Fed as a lender of last resort, they should be allowed to operate in securities and insurance, Johnson said.

The councils took a step toward promoting the growth of cross-border equity trading by endorsing the Group of Thirty resolutions to speed up the clearance and settlement process and reduce risk to participants.

Edward I. O'Brien, president of the New York-based Securities Industry Association, told a news conference,

The G-30 is a London-based organization of financial leaders throughout the world.

Nasd's president Joseph R. Hardiman said that cross border equity trading increased 16-fold since 1979 to nearly \$1.5 trillion and is expected to approach \$5 trillion by the year 2000.

The major barrier to the growth of global stock trading are the "inefficiencies" investors confront, Hardiman said.

The councils "addressed the most significant inefficiency, the lack of standards to facilitate cross-border clearance and settlement," he said.

**Systems**

Hardiman noted that the process by which securities are delivered and paid for by investors in international transactions is marked by the existence of widely varying systems, time frames and procedures.

The organization also agreed that its members furnish each other with information on a confidential basis to enhance enforcement and regulatory efforts.

**Discussion**

The two days of meetings also involved discussions on the need for co-ordinated capital adequacy requirements and a code of conduct for brokers, as well as programme trading and stock price volatility. Among the main Group of Thirty recommendations — whose endorsement does not compel councils members to the specific time frames — are:

● Delivery versus payment should be employed by 1992 for settling all securities transactions.

● By 1990, comparisons of trades between dealers should be done by trade date plus one, a process that now takes up to five days or more in some countries.

● A "rolling settlement" system should be adopted by all markets and final settlement should occur on transaction date plus five by 1990.

● Institutional investors or parties that are not brokers should, by 1992, be members of a trade comparison system, which exist for those investors that are unwilling or unable to participate in a risk-sharing arrangement.

● Each country should have by 1992 a central securities depository, which immobilizes stock certificates to facilitate book entry processing of securities.

## UK markets strive to stay ahead in Europe

### Liffe-Ltom merger soon: door left open for other exchanges to follow suit

LONDON, April 11. (Reuter): The planned merger of two of Britain's futures and options exchanges into the biggest market of its kind in Europe could set a trend as London tries to protect its place as the continent's financial capital.

"In an ideal world, London's best interests would be served by having all the markets together," said David Burton, chairman of the London International Financial Futures Exchange (Liffe) which vies with France's Matif for top spot in Europe.

Following the announcement in early April the Liffe and the London Traded Options Market (Ltom) were pursuing merger plans, the door has been left open for other exchanges to join them.

"Consideration would be given for other markets to join," Geoffrey Chamberlain, chairman of Ltom, told Reuter.

Among potential bedfellows are the London Soft Commodity and Energy Futures Exchanges.

A Liffe-Ltom merger, first mooted in 1987, will not be achieved quickly. A working group set up to

plan details of the link-up is to report back by the end of this month on where to house a single trading floor.

Liffe will either move from its present cramped base at the Royal Exchange near the Bank of England, the central bank, to join Ltom on the old London Stock Exchange floor.

Or the two will move to a new site in a building above Cannon Street railway station, also in the heart of London's financial district.

The working group, chaired by the Bank of England, which is said to favour uniting such markets to head off foreign competition, is to provide definite proposals by the end of June.

Burton does not expect Liffe, which trades debt futures, and Ltom, which deals in equity options to make the final move to a single trading floor for 12 to 18 months.

Although the diverse interests of other exchanges will probably lead to lengthy negotiations about any further mergers, the growing power of futures and

options markets in France and West Germany is likely to concentrate minds.

Some exchanges are giving the idea serious consideration.

Peter Wildblood, chief executive of the International Petroleum Exchange (IPE), told Reuters:

"We have always taken a view that there would be a suitable venue at a suitable cost could be found."

Mark Blundell, his opposite number at the soft commodity exchange London Fox, which is the world's largest cocoa futures market, added: "It's certainly something that we would be prepared to consider."

Fox could face higher costs in its present building when the rent comes up for review in June 1992. "If we were to move, this would be a logical point," Blundell said.

The London Metal Exchange (LME), the world's biggest organised metals market, is taking a back seat. It is in no rush to move as its lease only expires

in 1994. The tiny Baltic Futures Exchange (BFE), which trades futures in freight, grains, soymeal and potatoes, would ideally like to seduce Fox and perhaps the IPE to come to its building, which has a marble floor and a long tradition.

It would probably shun Liffe and Ltom.

"Getting everybody, whether they trade soymeal or bonds (German bonds), on the same floor is not necessarily the right way," said James Gray, chairman of the BFE marketing committee.

Various taxation and regulatory changes announced in the British budget speech last month should help futures and options funds to bloom and give a boost to London business.

Liffe's volume rose to 9.5 million contracts in the first quarter from 4.9 million in the same period last year, while the French financial futures market Matif traded about 8.6 million in the first three months of this year. West Germany's Deutsche Terminboerse is much smaller.

## Speed up 'shock therapy' reforms

MOSCOW, April 11. (UPI): With the Soviet budget spiralling out of control, President Mikhail Gorbachev said yesterday two top government councils will meet on Saturday to work on speeding up radical economic reforms expected to include sharp price increases.

Last week, the Izvestia government newspaper revealed that national income declined for the first two months of 1990 by up to two per cent — the first negative growth ever registered in Soviet history — while people's money supply increased by 15 per cent.

The total budget deficit last year was 120 billion roubles (\$192 billion), and other figures released recently showed that the government in 1988 printed twice as much money as in 1987, with no corresponding increase in the goods and services available.

Because the ruble is not convertible, the budget deficit cannot be financed by foreign aid buying into the economy as in the United States. The absence of a money market of stocks and bonds means the deficit cannot be financed internally.

**Unsettled**

Gorbachev told delegates to a congress of the young Communist League yesterday he wanted to speed up reforms to "improve the situation at the consumer market (and) do away, at least partially, with the deficit, which poisons the whole atmosphere of public life and unsettles people."

The reforms that are designed to eventually improve the consumer market, however, are expected in the short run to be felt in drastically higher prices.

Newspapers all this month have spoken of an impending "shock therapy" to halt the pricing pressures and the haemorraging of worthless roubles to cover the budget deficit.

"Unprofitable enterprises will be closed and unemployment will increase fast," Tass said last week. "It is unclear whether the population will reconcile itself to such a shock therapy."

Gorbachev and his presidential council of advisers and the Federation council of representatives from the nation's republics will meet on Saturday to look into speeding up the reforms.

"The situation allows us to predict that these will be very difficult, but necessary, decisions," Gorbachev said. "We shall need the national agreement on this question."

The President and the presidential council intend to adopt an early package of measures to give fresh impulse to economic transformations," Gorbachev said.

**Hikes**

He did not spell out exactly what measures would be taken, besides saying "the basic steps initially planned for 1992 and 1993 should be taken instead this year and early next year." Those are the years vast price hikes were planned.

Gorbachev said he expected some opposition; at one point switching from Russian to use a Spanish battle cry to move his troops.

"It is a paradox," he said. "At one time we are criticising the slow speed of the reform, indecisiveness and half-measures, and call for their speeding up. Then without learning about the suggestions for speeding up, we cry with enthusiasm, 'no pasaran' (they will not pass!)."

In addition to more price increase, a total reform of the price structure is being planned to rationalise costs of production and the value of services, and goods in the country that are now meaningless.

Rents in the Soviet Union about \$18 a month have not been raised since 1928; bread, sugar and egg prices are the same as in 1954 and meat in state stores at \$1.50 a pound is the same price as in 1964. A ride on the metro is still 5 kopecks (8 cents), the same as in the last 60 years.

**Structure**

Food subsidies alone take 15 per cent of the budget, but beyond the losses to the government in subsidies the lack of a true price structure stifles any reforms to make state enterprises self-financing and move to a market economy.

At present failing state enterprises — 13 per cent of the total — are bailed out by the government in form of credits.

"Today the budget deficit has reached almost 10 per cent of the gross national product," this month's Economic Life news paper said.

We have lived not according to our means: For 1986-88, the revenues of the state budget grew only 6.3 billion roubles (\$10.2 billion) and its expenditures increased by 75 billion (\$12.5 billion)."

## EEC dragging feet at Uruguay trade talks

### 'Needs of Third World ignored'

GENEVA, April 11. (UPI): The United States, European Economic Community and developing countries sharply blamed each other yesterday for blocking real progress at the troubled Uruguay round trade talks.

Washington singled out the community for "dragging its feet" on the crucial issue of more liberal farm trade and the EEC accused the United States of unilateral protectionism to try and improve its balance of trade.

Developing countries meanwhile said their special needs are being largely ignored by the richer nations who are to blame for "lack of substantive progress."

The Uruguay round was launched in late 1976 but is faltering badly on key issues despite a scheduled package deal deadline of December this year.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

**Bechtel wins HK contract:** Bechtel has signed an agreement with the Hong Kong government to help manage the building of a new international airport and numerous related projects valued at \$16 billion, the company announced Tuesday in San Francisco.

The entire project consists of a collection of infrastructure projects, including an airport serving greater Hong Kong, two major harbour crossings, expressways and a passenger rail transit system, Bechtel said.

Bechtel said the contract signed Tuesday was for management services for phase one of the Hong Kong airport works project, (UPI)

**Siemens-Nixdorf merger:** The West German cartel office in Tuesday gave Siemens the go-ahead to acquire majority shareholding in the Nixdorf computer firm, a move that will result in the creation of the largest data and information technology firm in Europe.

Announcing its decision, a spokesman for the official cartel office said the new firm, to be known as Siemens-Nixdorf Information Systems AG, will still face stiff major competition from other West German as well as foreign companies.

Siemens, already Western Europe's largest electronics concern recently embarked on a major expansion drive, that included an accord with International Business Machines Corp. and a hostile takeover — together with General Electric Co. of Britain — of the British Electronics Concern Plessey (UPI)

**NTT selects contractors:** Japan's giant domestic telecommunication company said Wednesday it has selected a US-Japanese joint venture for construction of its new head office in Tokyo.

Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. said Cesar Pelli and Yamashita Associated Architects has been selected as its contractor from among seven applicants which earlier passed pre-qualification screening. (UPI)

**UK Savoy reports profit rise:** Savoy Hotel group, fresh from a bruising battle to secure its independence from an acquisitive motorway catering conglomerate, reported a modest rise in 1989 profits on Tuesday but predicted tough times ahead.

Pre-tax profits last year rose to £13.1 million (\$21.4 million) from £12.5 million (\$20.4 million) in 1988.

Turnover increased to £89 million (\$45 million) from £75.2 million (£12.6 million). (Reuter)

**German investments:** West German firms will invest up to \$5.8 billion in an East German gas station chain, a West German association of traders in minerals said in a report published Tuesday.

The Union of Mineral Trade (MTU) also said its members will help East Germany introduce heating oil to replace the environmentally-hazardous brown coal — the major source of heating energy in East Germany.

The report said setting up the planned gas station chain will entail the renovation of between 1,250 and 2,000 stations at a total cost of four billion Deutsche marks (52.3 billion). (UPI)

**Knapp rejects increased pay offer:** The leader of Britain's main rail unions on Tuesday rejected an increased pay offer for the state-run network's 100,000 workers.

British Rail (BR) raised its pay offer from eight to 8.5 per cent but Jimmy Knapp, general secretary of the National Union of Railwaysmen, said it was unacceptable.

"I made it clear that 8.5 per cent was not acceptable and I was not prepared to recommend it to my union executive," Knapp said. "I am not optimistic at the moment. 8.5 per cent does not improve the chances of negotiated settlement." (Reuter)

**EEC consents:** Italy won European Economic Community approval on Tuesday for paying out state aid to a drastically slimmed-down steel industry, an EEC statement said in Brussels.

The community's assent set the seal on a compromise in a row over steel plant closures which nearly ended up in the European Court of Justice.

Italy had sought more lenient treatment, citing strong demand for its steel, while the commission insisted on reduced capacity as a condition for community aid. (Reuter)

**Sir Granville dies:** Sir Keith Granville, who organised the amalgamation of two airlines to form British Airways, died on Saturday at 79. His widow said on Tuesday.

Granville was chairman of the British Overseas Aircraft Corporation when it merged with British European Airways to become British Airways, and bought Britain's first five Concorde, she said.

He also headed the International Air Traffic Association for a year. (Reuter)

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**Volvo to sell assets for Renault link-up**

STOCKHOLM, April 11 (Reuter): Swedish carmaker Volvo said yesterday it was planning to sell up to five billion crowns (\$820 million) of assets to fund its link-up with the state-owned French group Renault.

Spokesman Hans Renstrom said Volvo would probably sell off parts of its stock portfolio which includes investment companies such as AB Custos, and investment AB Carlo.

"We have earlier declared that we are ready to divest certain assets but we have no time plan," he said.

AB Volvo and Regie Nationale des Usines Renault announced in February they would swap and buy stock in each other to share research and development costs in a

## Metal, Mining to merge

TOKYO, April 11, (AP): Two members of the Mitsubishi Group created from the break-up of Mitsubishi during the US occupation after World War II announced yesterday that they will merge.

Mitsubishi Metal Corp. and Mitsubishi Mining and Cement Co., in announcing their merger, attempted to head off expected criticism that the move is a step toward re-establishment of the monopoly power held by Japan's pre-war "zaibatsu" financial combines.

The Mitsubishi Group companies comprised one of the three most powerful zaibatsu before and during World War II.

Under the merger plan, nine shares of Mitsubishi Metal will equal 10 shares of Mitsubishi Mining and Cement effective Dec 1, the companies said in an announcement.

The merger will link one of Japan's largest smelters of nonferrous metals with one of its largest producers of cement.

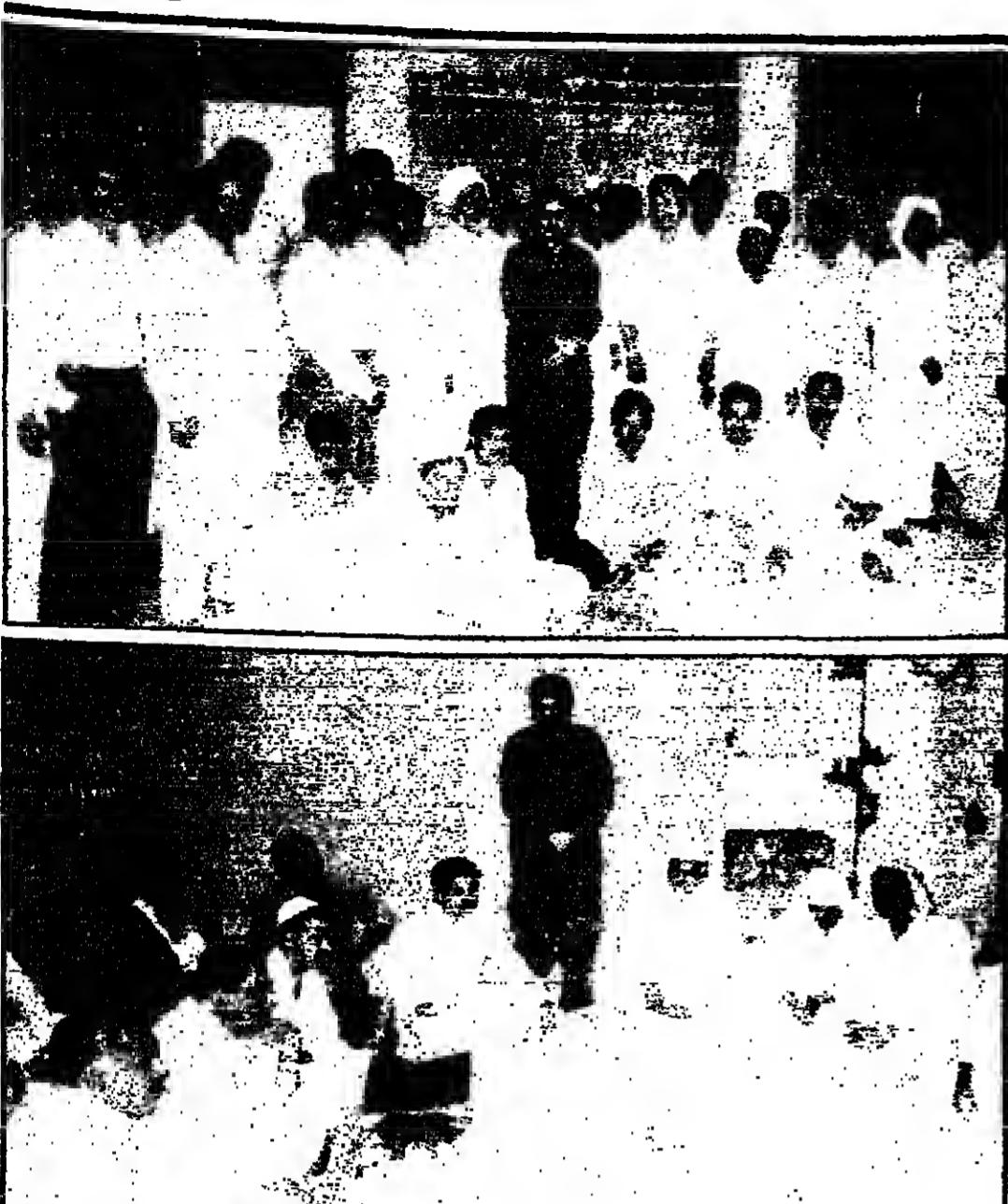
"Every president of the two companies over the past 40 years sought out the possibility of a merger," said Mitsubishi Metal President Takeshi Nagano, who will become chairman of the new company.

The presidents of the two companies said the merger should not be seen as a "monopolistic threat."

By combining resources, the two firms will be able to grow into a comprehensive company which is "the best way to conduct a flexible and dynamic adjustment to various structural changes progressing worldwide," Nagano said.

Ministers from around 25 key trading nations

## EVENTS



## PPC mark death anniversary

THE 11th death anniversary of the former prime minister and Chairman of the Pakistan People's Party Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto was observed here on 4th April 1990 in a befitting manner at the residence of Haji Qamar. Qamar Khwani was held, large number club members attended. Dr Riaz Ahmed Mahesar president PPC highlighted the role of the late Bhutto in uplifting the poor and also raising the stature of Pakistan in the comity of world nations. Rafiq Ahmed Mirza General Sec, PPC, Punno Khan, Nazir Dogar, Dr. M. Ali Hajj Qamar, Mohd Ali & Javed Ahmed were other members who highlighted the role of late Bhutto and present Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's government's achievements in various fields. Pictures show (top) PPC members with Dr Riaz and Mirza, (bottom) Dr Riaz highlighting the role of the late Bhutto.

## WHAT'S ON

## ARTS

**Sultan Gallery**  
Furniture of Kuwait, pre-oil 1940s furniture, is currently on show at the Sultan Gallery, daily from 10 am to 12 noon and 3 to 10 pm.

From April 16, 1990, "The Mosques of Isfahan" exhibition will be shown at the gallery; it will be open daily from 10 am to 12 noon and 3 to 10 pm.

**Hobby Centre**  
An exhibition of students work in jewellery, watercolour painting & pottery in the studio at the Tareq Rajab Museum on:

Thursday, April 12th from 9.30 am - 12 noon; 8 pm - 10.30 pm.

Friday, April 13th from 8 pm - 10.30 pm.

**Kaleidoscope**

A colourful spectrum of British and American 20th century music — including: Britten, Gershwin, Elgar, Copeland and Sandhine, Frances Coad - voice; Trevor Platt - piano. On April 18th at the British embassy. For more information: Tel. 5318060 ext 19, 8 am - 1 pm.

**Bits 'n' Pieces**  
An interesting 8 week course in patchwork and quilting techniques. For details contact Tel. 5634663.

## SOCIAL

**Indian Cuisine Centre**  
Indian art of fancied lac bangles and designer henna work comes live at the finest Indian cuisine centre of Kuwait at the Maharaja Palace Restaurant.

Come savour the delicacies whilst giving your lady a gift to cherish. For more information contact 2406150.

## British Council

The British Council working hours during the Holy month of Ramadan: General office — Saturday to Wednesday — 7.30 to 14.00; Library — Saturday to Wednesday — 9.00 to 12.30, 16.00 to 19.00; Thursday: 9.00 to 12.00.

Wednesday, 18/4: "Czech Cartoon Muttel & Cley Show." Screening to be held at the Chamber of Commerce auditorium.

Sunday, 22/4: "Indiana Jones and the Last Adventure." Dir. by Steven Spielberg, screening to be held at the Kuwait Towers.

Tuesday, 24/4: "Once Upon A Time In America." Dir. by Sergio Leone. Screening to be held at the Kuwait Towers.

Note: Screening at 9.30 pm.

**Cosmos Summer Nite**  
From Kuwait Cosmos on 10th May 1990, at lawns of Hunting & Equestrian Club. (Pool-side) from 21.00 hrs until dawn dancing to the beats of Hurricane Alley & Next of Kin. Highlights of the evening: Cosmos Summer Nite special, table surprise, novelty dance, ballroom dance competition. Valuable gifts in store and not forgetting an exotic buffet of your choice. Please collect your invitations from undermentioned: Vincent Pinto, 4887140 or Dania D'Cruz, 5623621.

**Anglican services**  
PAUL'S Church, Ahmadi Anglican services:

Maudy Thursday, 8 pm, The Last Supper.

Good Friday, 2 pm The Cross of Christ, 7 pm United Service Easter Day, 8.30 am, Holy Communion; 11.30 am Lunchtime family service; 12.30 pm Lunchtime communion; 6.30 pm Easter festival with the Ahmadi Music Group; 7.30 pm Holy Communion.

For further particulars ring 3985924, 562073/2429277 (Cynthia).

## Cine Club

Sunday, 15/4: "The Last Emperor." Screening to be held at the Kuwait Towers.

Tuesday, 17/4: "Sunshine," Dir. by Stanley Kubrick. Screening to be held at the Kuwait Towers.

Wednesday, 18/4: "Czech

Cartoon Muttel & Cley Show."

Screening to be held at the

Chamber of Commerce

auditorium.

Sunday, 22/4: "Indiana

Jones and the Last Adventure."

Dir. by Steven Spielberg,

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Kuwait Towers.

Tuesday, 24/4: "Once Upon

A Time In America." Dir.

by Sergio Leone. Screening to be held at the Kuwait Towers.

Note: Screening at 9.30 pm.

**Kuwait School of Contem-**

**porary Dance presents**

**The Dancer Is the dance &**

**dance is life"**

On Monday, April 30 at 8 pm, Tuesday, May 1 at 8 pm, Wednesday, May 2 at 8 pm, Thursday, May 3 at 3 pm (matinee), Thursday, May 3 at 8 pm.

Tickets will be on sale from

Saturday, April 14th from 4 pm

— 6 pm Saturday — Wednes-

day in the Box Office in the

Mousetrap Theatre or Tel:

5383099, 8 am - 12 noon.

**British Council**

COAST to COAST. Saturday,

14 and Sunday, 15 April 6.00

pm. A genuinely funny

comedy, this is one of the most

talked about and fondly

remembered British films of

1987, achieving the highest

rating ever for a BBC feature.

Lenny Henry, arguably

Britain's finest comedian, in his

first film role as Ritchie Lee, is

perfect. There is the added

bonus of 18 classic Tamil

Movies skillfully deployed by

director Sandy Johnson.

DENNIS, Wednesday, 18

April 5.30 pm; Thursday, 19

April 10.30 am.

The only problem with Dennis is that everything he does

always ends in disaster for his

long-suffering parents and

neighbours. No wonder

everyone calls him the Menace!

Nine episodes that will have

children hollering with laugh-

ter!

## TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

## KTV 1

10.00 The Opening and Holy Quran  
10.15 Cartoons  
10.30 Mama Anisa and children programme: Local children programme  
11.00 Children varieties  
11.15 Cultural film  
12.05 Religious Feature  
12.15 A game show prepared by the Social Reform Society (part 3)  
1.00 New Summary  
1.15 The World Today via Satellite (repetition)  
1.30 Cultural serial  
2.00 Kabool adventures: Cartoon serial  
2.30 Maa Al Sabreen: Historical serial (part 17)  
3.10 Human health: Cultural programme (part 17)

3.35 Maraya: Arabic serial (part 1), starring Yaser Al Athman, Saleem Kalass and Maha Sabri  
5.30 Hadith Deeni: Religious programme presented by Sheikh Mohammed Metwali Al Sharawi  
6.25 Muzenzer: Cartoon serial  
6.45 Baad Al Estar: Religious programme  
7.00 Madenat Al Ajyab: Local children serial (part 18)  
7.45 Night chemists, airlines and official advertisements

8.15 Maa Al Islam: Religious programme, prepared and presented by Dr Khaled Al Mazkori  
9.00 Juhayna: Cultural programme (part 17)  
9.45 Naseef Al Madhi: Local programme  
10.00 News in Arabic

10.45 Lil Hayat Baqya: Local serial (part 1), starring Suad Abdullah, Ayesha Ibrar, Ali Al Mufadi, Abdul Imam Abdullah  
11.45 3 x 3: Local variety programme (part 17)  
12.30 Share Al Mawardi: Arabic serial (Final Part)  
1.15 Al Fata Al Shaeer: Arabic feature film, starring Noor Al Sharq, Noura, Ali Al Hajan and Mohamed Al Deifawi  
3.00 News Summary  
3.05 The World Today via Satellite  
3.20 Holy Quran and Closedown

## FRIDAY

10.00 The Opening and Holy Quran  
10.15 Cartoons  
10.30 Children Magazine: Local children programme, prepared by Amena Khayr  
11.15 Live from the Grand Mosque for the Friday Prayers and speeches  
12.30 Al Zakat Programme: Religious programme, prepared by Kuwait Zaka House  
1.00 News summary  
1.05 The World Today via Satellite (repetition)  
1.30 Alwan: Variety Programme, prepared by Mohammed Al Fares and presented by Fatima Abdul Wahab  
2.00 Kabool Adventures: Cartoon serial  
2.30 Maa Al Sabreen: Historical serial (part 18)  
3.15 Human Health: Cultural Programme (part 18)  
3.35 Maraya 88: Arabic serial  
4.30 Rasa Al Ekhla: Local programme (part 18)

4.45 Rafat Al Hajan: Arabic serial (part 18)  
5.30 Hadith Deeni: Religious programme, presented by Mohammed Metwali Al Sharawi  
6.25 Muzenzer: Cartoon serial  
6.45 Baad Al Estar: Religious programme  
7.00 Madenat Al Ajyab: Local children serial (part 18)  
7.45 Night chemists, airlines and official advertisements

8.15 The Family programme: Local programme  
9.00 Juhayna: Cultural programme (part 2)  
10.00 News in Arabic

10.45 3 x 3: Local variety programme (part 18)

11.45 3 x 3: Local variety programme (part 18)

12.30 The Bill Cosby Show: Theo fails in his exam and his father teaches him the best way to revise his lessons!

1.10 Just for the Record: A trip in a forest by the host of the programme. A man who runs backwards... Gate sky... sharing or hair dressing by fire!

11.30 Feature film: "Dirty Dozen Next Mission". Starring: Lee Marvin, Robert Ryan, Charles Bronson, Telly Savalas, George Kennedy, Clint Walker... In 1944 twelve convicts serving life sentences are recruited for a commando suicide mission.

1.15 News in Brief

1.30 Magazine D'Actualite

## KTV 2

8.00 Opening announcement and Holy Quran  
8.10 Popeye and Son, Cartoon series for children  
8.30 Eureka: How the typewriter was invented... a look at table tennis game.  
8.50 Mr. Wizard's World: A variety of magic acts, illusions and scientific experiments... training children on

how to use or deal with information... News in English  
9.00 Welcome Ramadan: A religious programme on the occasion of Holy Ramadan

9.45 Beauty and the Beast: Dayan a new general prosecutor assistant, orders one of her men to take photos of all who attend Catherine's funeral particularly Vincenti's God-father....

10.00 Island in Focus: A religious programme on the occasion of Holy Ramadan

10.30 Globe TV: Spain Matadors: A trip to Spain to the Soviet Union... at Turks islands, where 60 Japanese vessels sank during World War II.

11.15 Tales from the Dark-side: A telephone call recording machine helps a young man to get married.

11.45 Roseanne: Darlin Rosie's daughter is asked to read a poem on a cultural evening party.

12.15 Wiseguy: "Sins of the Father": Garbage war continues between Albert and Jeremiah. War is exploited for the sake of a candidate to New York City elections...

1.30 News in brief  
1.30 Magazine D'Actualite

## PRAYERS

Imsak 3.53 am  
Fajr 4.03  
Zohr 11.49  
Asr 3.23 pm  
Maghreb 6.13  
Isha 7.32

## FRIDAY

Imsak 3.52 am  
Fajr 4.02  
Zohr 11.49  
Asr 3.23 pm  
Maghreb 6.14  
Isha 7.33

## Ramadan at Messeilia Beach Hotel

AL MUBARAKIAH: Daily Ramadan Iftar Buffet, with a selection of fresh dishes, Kuwaiti and Middle Eastern specialities.

Ghabga & Sohour: Enjoy the daily fresh desserts and juices with the delightful sohour buffet accompanied by soft Middle Eastern background music on the oud.

## Holiday Inn

Ramadan Activities: COFFEE SHOP: Lavish buffet of traditional Arabic cuisine for only KD 6,000 including beverages. First two kids free, per family, the rest half price.

EUROPEAN: All kinds of freshly squeezed juices plus mouth-watering pastries. BABYLON GARDENS: Order for 2 and 25,272. LOBBY CAFE: Enjoy a variety of Arabic and Continental sweets and associated fresh fruit juices.

LA PERCOLA: The beach side open air restaurant offers light meals and snacks from sunset to midnight.

## CINEMA

Al Andulus  
Cold Steel  
Al Salmiyah  
Good Morning Vietnam  
Al Hamra  
Topline  
Drive-In  
Raiders of Paradise  
Al Firdous  
Aakhri Guban  
Fahheel Open  
Aakhri Baazi  
Sahbi Khandan  
Al Jaha  
Arabic film  
Granada  
Sboc Troop  
Sulabikhat  
Chithram  
Jeeb  
Shankar Dada  
Ahmadi Drive-In  
Arabic film

## HOTELS

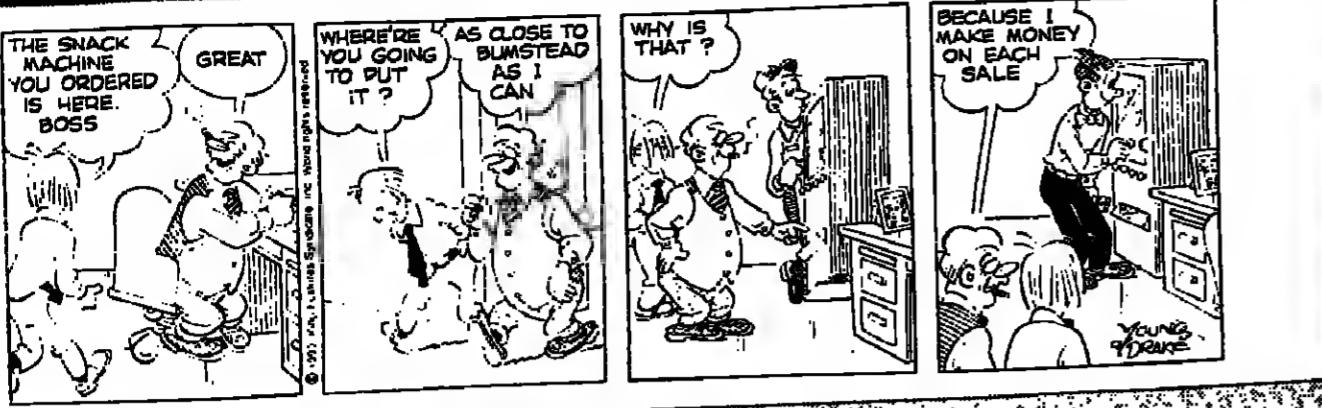
LA PALMA: Opens for an elaborate Iftar buffet with traditional specialities of your choice. Desserts prepared by our Arabic pastry chef. One guest complimentary for each group of 6 persons. Ext 8166.

LA PATISSERIE: Opens for take-away treats at 5.00 pm and stays open for Suhoor until 2.00 am. Live entertainment in the lobby sets the mood for the evening. Ext 8014.

OUTSIDE CATERING: Whether it is for you and your family or for friends and associates our outside catering facilities can cater to all your needs. Offers traditional Iftar buffet suggestions. Banquets will be pleased to assist: 25300

## LEISURE

## BLONDIE — By Dean Young &amp; Stan Drake



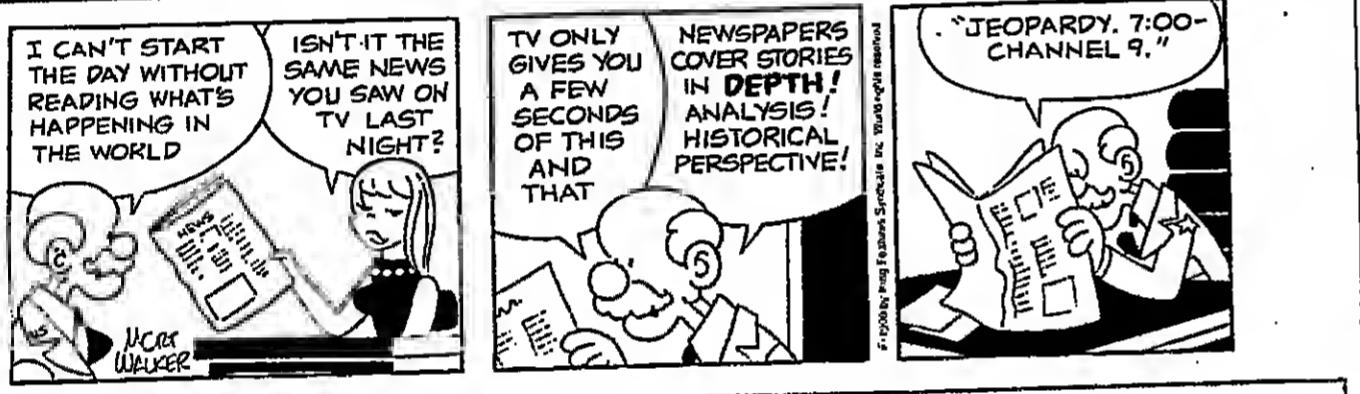
## HAGAR THE HORRIBLE — By Arlin Turner



## AGATHA CRUMM — By Bill Hoest



## BEETLE BAILEY — By Mort Walker



## THE WIZARD OF ID — By Brant Parker &amp; Johnny Hart



## DANDY CAPP — By Jerry Scott



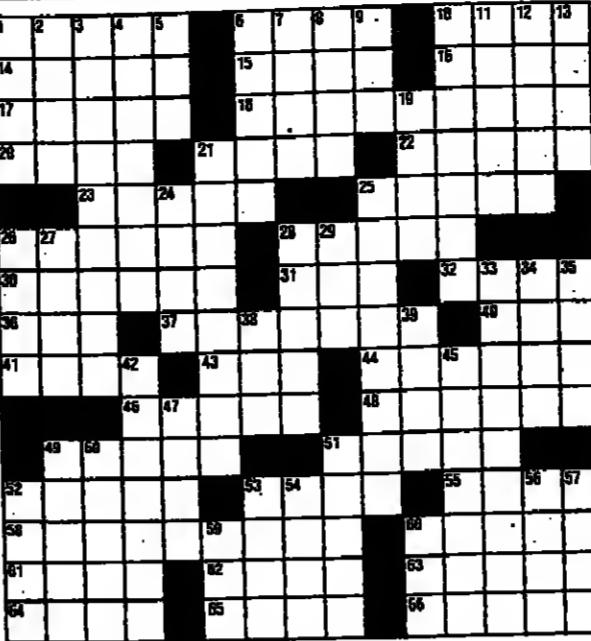
## B.I.C. — By Jeffrey Hart



## HE-MAN — By G. Forman &amp; J. Shulman



## TODAY'S CROSSWORD



## ACROSS

1 Mary of "The Maltese Falcon"  
6 Goods, for short  
10 Ladd who played "Shane"  
14 Greek letter  
15 A Chaplin  
16 Greedy one's word  
17 Like some love scenes  
18 Olivier Roman Empire  
20 Kitchen ending  
21 Fictional Uriah  
22 Film greats, to some  
23 Ballet bears  
25 Ganders' mates  
26 Marsh birds  
28 Hidden  
30 Bright arcs  
31 Mauna —  
32 — of the earth  
36 Guadalajara gold  
37 Carmen, of films  
40 Negative conjunction  
41 Creepers  
43 Letters, for beginners  
44 Perilous  
46 TV role for Herschel Bernardi  
48 — Fidelis  
49 Shield parts  
51 "Off to a flying —"  
52 Be coquettish  
53 Libertine  
55 Covenant  
58 Diane Keaton — Oscar winner  
60 Walkway  
61 Joan Crawford 1932 movie  
62 Caspian Sea feeder

63 Descendant  
64 Western scene  
65 Disavow  
66 Matinee melodramas  
DOWN  
1 "When My Baby Smiles"  
2 Close  
3 Gable-Loy flying film  
4 Welles Shakespearean movie  
5 Actor Bolger  
6 Lancaster biblical movie  
7 Info  
8 Break suddenly  
9 Attention  
10 1984 Oscar winning film  
11 Parts of RR trains  
12 As — (generally)  
13 Monster's loch  
19 Connected  
21 Some Germans  
24 Particular  
25 Hoffman-

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## Indian Film

# Showbiz world is abuzz again....

By Firoze Rangoonwalla  
Special correspondent

After a spell of depression, Bombay's showbiz world is up on its feet again. New projects are being planned, new people are investing money, new talents are getting launched. The old guard has also geared up for some exciting activities. And all these are being amply promoted through *muhurat* (launching functions) and the inevitable cocktail parties.

Surprisingly, this is happening even for TV serials. The Mudra people who made the earliest forays in imported TV programmes and video-made films have come up with the serial *Tenali Rama*. It is like the Akbar-Birbal version of a south Indian priest and king, laced with witty stories. A party was held at Taj to show some episodes and introduce the actors to the press.

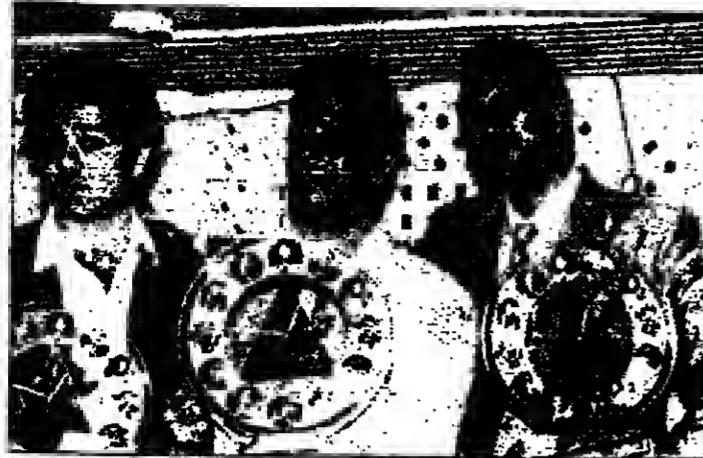
Hogging the limelight were cartoonist R.K. Laxman (who did sketches) and his wife Kamla Laxman the novelist (who wrote the TV scripts). Vijay Kishiyap, famous for his comic Bengali's role in *Yeh Jo Hai Zindagi* plays Tenali. The producer T.S. Narasimhan and the director T.S. Nagabharana are from Bangalore and have won awards for Kannada films as well as *Malgudi Days*.

Prakash Varma, with one foot in India and one abroad, had dabbled with production some time ago. He is back with *Princess From Kathmandu*, celebration of the Indo-UK co-pro being aptly held in Sea Princess hotel. It's a James Bond kind of thriller with a fresh pair featuring Arjun Gaur, an NRI working as a professional doctor in UK.

His cool handsome looks made Prakash see hero material in him and he is now as serious about acting as his other pursuits. We asked him if he is fluent in Hindi. "Yes," he said. He is from Kanpur (U.P.) and could get back the language whenever he wanted.

What surprised us was the heroine Naveeda Mehta, a bubbly nubile beauty studying in 12th Standard, junior college of arts. She refused to give a detailed interview till her exams were over. But her optimism showed. "My name itself means good news and I will bring it for this film and everyone in it," said the lass who was the runner-up for Miss India title. Dressed in a tight leggy skin and elaborately crowned hair-do Naveeda went up on the stage with Arjun, joined by good old Prem Chopra in a cowboy hat amidst claps for the *muhurat*. Seven recorded songs provided the background score during the party.

Those with big hits last year,



Old trio: Sunny, Naseer and Jackie in Tridev



New trio: Chunky, Naseer and Sunny stars of Vishwamita



Poonam and husband set their van rolling with Anil and Sri Devi.



A new actress? Boy George, no. This is that line actor Naseeruddin Shah, who a la Tootsie, dons the swimming suit to make waves in his forthcoming film entitled *Tahatka*. The film also stars Aditya Pancholi and Javed Jaffri.

Anupam Kher, Lata, Vinod Khanna, Jeeendra, Rishi, Sunny, Juhi and composers Shiv-Hari. But others had all dark wardrobes. Anyway, the star attraction Sri Devi came in a colourful Lucknowi dress. The joy of being Number One was evident in the ample smiles she threw to the flash-bulbs. For the *muhurat* shot, Sri did a gypsy dance to a desert folk song sung by Ila Arun in her falsetto voice.

That was the auspicious shot of *Lambha* (rare moments), another love story with the heroine in a double role. Yash forgetting old loyalties has switched over to Anil Kapoor. Was that why the *Chandni* heroes Rishi Kapoor and Vinod Khanna came to collect their trophies? Perhaps, it was their way of showing resentment. In showbiz, it is very rare to be sporting. Madhuri and Sangeeta too were missing from the post-*Tridev* release poetry books, like *Zunoor* by comedian Mukhri's



Sri Devi and Rishi: Chandni pair going separate ways

daughter Naseem.

Poonam Dhillon Thakeria paved the path for married and retired actresses to become active businesswomen. Poonam got the brain-wave of a luxury van-for-hire for stars, (at the cost of the producers). It is a silver vehicle, Poonam has named it *Vanity*, it contains two air-conditioned make-up rooms, with all amenities like video, TV, dining table and even comfy beds. The hire charges are Rs.2,000 (about KD351) for eight hours. It is meant for outdoor shooting, especially for actresses, but don't be surprised if male stars insist on parking it in the studio compounds day and night.

The Thakeria couple held an inaugural function with Sri Devi and Anil Kapoor as their first clients. Once these two give the lead, *Vanity* is sure to be in big demand. Several film folks attend the little party. Poonam said that she had spent ten lakhs of rupees on designing and decoration. But she hopes to make it a paying venture. Producers like Boney Kapoor have already booked the van. So Poonam has decided to put two more on the roads.

The belated celebration of romance against violence sparked off by *Mohe Pyar Kiya* and *Chandni*, recurs in various love stories that are being launched, including *Sahibaan* to be directed by Ramesh Talwar for D.K. Chawla with Rishi Kapoor, Madhuri Dixit and Sunjay Dutt.

The triangle was launched with a formal *muhurat* at Mehboob Studio followed by a cocktail-dinner party at Centaur the same night. The music is by Shiv Hari of *Chandni*, a pair who may go a long way, now that good old couple Laxmikant and Pyarelal are threatening to split up after 30 years.



Arjun Gaur plays the lead in Princess from Kathmandu

## Behind the screen

• Rekha's marriage disappointed many hopefuls. But the strangest is a British Labour MP called Keith Vaz. The parliamentarian said he had met the actress at Leicester and almost decided to propose to her. Now of course he has only best wishes for her.

• Director N. Chandra's ego has bloated with success that he has begun insulting people left and right. He snubs his cameraman, assistant directors and other unit hands loudly and crudely. Six of them have already left him. Now, he has only to do it with a star and see how it boomerangs. The insulted unit men have planned to get star support to pull N. Chandra.

• Amitabh is desperate; he will do anything to click... even go back on his convictions. The weird voice in *Agneepath* was meant to mimic and parody a real-life mafia don of Bombay's underworld. But the crime chief did not like it and ordered his industry friends to get it changed. So Amit came back to Bombay and re-dubbed the whole film in his original voice. His theatre friend Manoj Desai wanted to give the new version a grand gala opening. But the public reaction is: *film to wohi hai na*, (it's the same film).

• Shatrughan Sinha wearing a fur cap like Prime Minister V.P. Singh was taunted for copying the chief and showing his loyalty to the new party. Undaunted Shatrughan shot back that he always wore such caps for years. He quoted his old films like *Admi Sadak Ka*. It's lucky he did not conclude that it was the PM who had been copying him recently.

• Salman Khan, the new star, is growing too big for his boots. After his brief role in *Biwi Ho To Aisi*, he had signed some films after begging the producers. But now, he is shutting the door on the same helpful chaps. He wants to revise contracts according to his new rates and replace heroines. There is only one escape route. If a producer signs his pair Salim to write the film, he makes some concessions. Then it will be all in the family.

• *Chandni* and love stories in general may receive a blow from the fact that the film's Telugu dubbed version has not done well at the box. Producer Subhramani Reddy wonders where he went wrong. For one thing he should not have called the film *Sri Devi*. That is mixing up the star with the character. And films with star names have never run, even in the past, like *Madhubala*.

## Star ships

Aamir Khan: "I would love working with Sri Devi and Dimple. I am their big fan. But on one condition. I should have an equally important role to play."

Shabana Azmi: "In the last two years, I have virtually made no money because I did only art films. People get angry when I do films like *Rakhwala*. I am the only actress who is not supposed to make money."

Kimi: "I had a couple of relationships (before I decided on marriage). But each time something went wrong. Things didn't work out. I am honest. I don't disown my relationships in public and enjoy myself on the sly."

Shatrughan Sinha: "I admire Amitabh as an actor. But he is certainly not cut out for politics. He is only cut out for cut-outs."

Chunky: "I have a hobby of flirting around with girls; But they are not my main weakness. Yes, my friendships with them are thicker and longer."

# Mammootty: 'Superstar?.... I don't know'

## Super M's super success in Malayalam cinema

• TYPICAL day in my life?" ponders Mammootty, lighting a beehi and relaxing in his chair in a Trivandrum hotel. He looks exceptionally fresh and well-groomed, dressed into a spotless white *mundu* and *hush shirt*. "Well take today. I got up just an hour ago. That was," he looks at his watch and laughs, "1.30 p.m... lunch time!"

But, he had gone to bed at 5.30 a.m., having driven overnight from Madras. Could he really call this a typical day? Mammootty, Malayalam superstar with over 200 films under his belt and a dozen more at least in the offing next year in Malayalam, Tamil and maybe even Hindi, looks genuinely surprised when he says he no longer knows what a typical day in his life is like.

"Maybe this is not a typical day," he says, "but then, very often, when I am in Madras or Trivandrum, I can't keep regular hours. In these two places I have to do dubbing for one film, shooting for another, patchwork for several more. Then there are night scenes to shoot. The days are so strenuous that I have no time to think of day or night."

A very changed life-style indeed, for a man who, just ten years ago, was trying to make a living as a lawyer in Manjeri in north Kerala. Born to an agriculturist in Kottayam district, Mohammed Kutty (his college friends transformed his name to Mammootty as it was easier on the tongue) grew up speaking Malayalam and Tamil and hero-worshipping the Tamil stars of his time, MGR and Sivaji Ganesan. Although he was always an ardent film buff, he never seriously thought of joining films until he went to college in Cochin. "In college, I really opened

up," Mammootty says, "I was the leader of the drama group. I also acted for a semi-professional troupe, did muntry, fought college elections. By then I was Mammootty and my name was pushed into brackets even on the college notice board! I gradually became a film enthusiast, and would never miss a festival. Though I trained to be a lawyer there was this latent desire in me to be an actor. I tried my best to meet film personalities, hoping for a break."

In 1978, his friends introduced him to the well-known writer, M.T. Vasudevan Nair, at a film festival. And so, he got his offer for his first film role, "The film

Mammootty had married Zulfi six days before he started his first film. "She married a lawyer," he chuckles, "but now has to live with an actor." They have two children. His daughter Sumi is eight and son Zulkar Salman is six.

"In the early stages of my career I used to spend a lot of time with Zulfi, now I have to steal time to be with her and my kids," says Mammootty.

Does this worry him... the inability to spend more time with his family... "I have just one life and I have to share it with both—my career and my family," he says. "My life-style had to change once I became an actor

Even in ordinary films he had managed to impress film-makers of his calibre. Director K.G. George, his mentor, continued to use him in all his films, and to Mammootty's credit, he never refused a George film, even if he had a small insubstantial role like the one in *Adaminte Variyellam* (Adam's Rib). In George's *Lekhayadai Maranam Oru Flashback* (Lekha's Death...) he played an aging superstar, a role he says he modelled on his childhood hero Sivaji Ganesan and, of course, the evergreen Malayalam star, Prem Nazir.

By the late eighties, Mammootty had acted in films made by every well-known film-maker. His roles ranged from the romantic to the villainous, from the urban sophisticate to the rustic comedian. He was brilliant as Krishnamurthy, the journalist-turned-avenger in *New Delhi Times*, and as a man driven to madness by rural society in Sibi Malayil's *Thaniasavaranam*. In Bharathan's *Upasana* he played a young man who rapes his sister's friend in the car one rainy evening... and then woos her back with every romantic device ever coined. Barring the feminists, who protested against this glib portrayal of rape. Mammootty's female fans at whom this and other similar films were aimed, just loved it. Mammootty

was on his way to stardom. Until a couple of years ago, the actor shone alone in solitary splendour until a younger, more tempestuous superstar came whizzing in.... Mohanlal.

"Superstar?" Mammootty says. "I don't know, maybe audiences prefer us to some other stars. But we do stupid things superstars are supposed to do. You see, our Malayalam film industry is different. We work in a democratic way. I, for instance, don't have any secretary. I fix my own appointments. I do my own public relations. If I accept a film, everyone concerned sits down and discusses the script. We don't accept more than we can

attach any importance to stardom. It only ensures saleability and so you get better roles."

"Even after all these years, I don't think I am financially stable. Tomorrow, if I don't put on make-up I'll be in trouble."

"As an actor I feel I have to achieve a lot more I guess, when an actor loses that urge, he diminishes as an actor. But right now, I am in a wonderful position when I can choose my roles. For this, I must thank my stardom."

Having straddled the Malayalam silver screen for nearly a decade now, Mammootty is on the look out for new pastures. Cashing in on the



Mammootty, "I am never satisfied with any of my roles. I remember them all... the pains, the tensions, the setbacks."

accepted as a regular actor in mainstream Hindi cinema." Recently he rejected the idea of remaking one of his latest Malayalam hits *Noir Saab* in Hindi, probably for the same reason. "I am told Amitabh Bachchan praised my work in *Nair Saab*, he says. "In fact he wanted to do the Hindi remake, but changed his mind because of his asthma which rules out his shooting for long stretches in Kashmir, where the film is set."

Mammootty is trying to work out a project with BR Films, maybe a remake of his hit *August 1*, an adaptation of *The Day of The Jackal*. Or perhaps a film based on the kidnapping of Dr Rubaiyya Sayeed, to be made in Malayalam and Hindi.

Mammootty's quest for new "different" roles has led him to play the lead role in I.V. Sasi's *Mrigayaa*, released last December. With blackened teeth and

unkempt hair, he looked a far cry from the usual suave character he is so fond of portraying. Another talked about film is *Adoor Gopalakrishnan's Mottiukal* in which he plays a writer (Vaikom Mohammed Basheer), who is imprisoned for his political views and falls love with an unseen woman inside the prison.

What about co-stars? Mammootty feels that at the moment there are no good actresses in Malayalam cinema. "It's not as if we don't have enough talented women. And it's not true any more that women are afraid to enter the industry. Why, they are looked after so well and they earn a lot. When they talk of women's liberation, when they readily join the army and even become pilots, why should they be afraid to act in films?"

Gita Aravamudan  
Courtesy: Filmfare.

**Mammootty is a household name in Kerala; his flashing smile sets female hearts aflutter in Kerala. A lawyer with a latent desire to be an actor, the Kerala actor has this year capped his success with the 1990 Best Actor National Award.**

and achieved fame. And for fame, a man has to mortgage his freedom. Circumstances force certain changes on you. People treat stars differently. They create the distance. I don't know if I can go back to being a lawyer now, even though I was happy with my life as it was. Because now people think of me only as an actor. If I stand up to argue in court, they might think I'm acting!" In the beginning Mammootty was not too choosy about his roles. He took anything which came his way... small roles and big ones. By the mid 1980s, he was working at the rate of 30 films a year. Fortunately for him, Mammootty didn't get into a rut.

maker. His roles ranged from the romantic to the villainous, from the urban sophisticate to the rustic comedian. He was brilliant as Krishnamurthy, the journalist-turned-avenger in *New Delhi Times*, and as a man driven to madness by rural society in Sibi Malayil's *Thaniasavaranam*. In Bharathan's *Upasana* he played a young man who rapes his sister's friend in the car one rainy evening... and then woos her back with every romantic device ever coined. Barring the feminists, who protested against this glib portrayal of rape. Mammootty's female fans at whom this and other similar films were aimed, just loved it. Mammootty

copied with. And once we accept a project, we are very discipline about shooting schedules." How does he account for the high price he and Mohanlal command? Thespians like Sathy and Prem Nazir could never dream of such money even after decades in the film industry. Why do producers fall over each other to launch projects if either of them just gives a nod. Never mind the cost?"

"Those are just rumours," Mammootty says. "Of course, we do get better money, but you can blame this on inflation. Still, we don't get anything like the superstars in Hindi or even Tamil cinema do. Actually, I don't

## Happy birthday



Amin Ghulam Allo Allana recently held a party to celebrate his birthday. The picture shows Amin rejoicing with his sister Yasmin.



Sharima Alphonso turns 4 on April 14



Arsaed Anwar on April 12



Khuram Shahbaz on April 13



Malcolm D'souza turns 8 on April 12



Viveta Monteiro turns 6 on April 14



Gayle Goveas turns 5 on April 15



David Fernandes turns 10 on April 13



Susan D'Souza turns 6 on April 16



Veena Bhaskaran turns 2 on April 14



Fardous Habib turns 9 today April 12



Shweta Chopra turns 11 on April 14

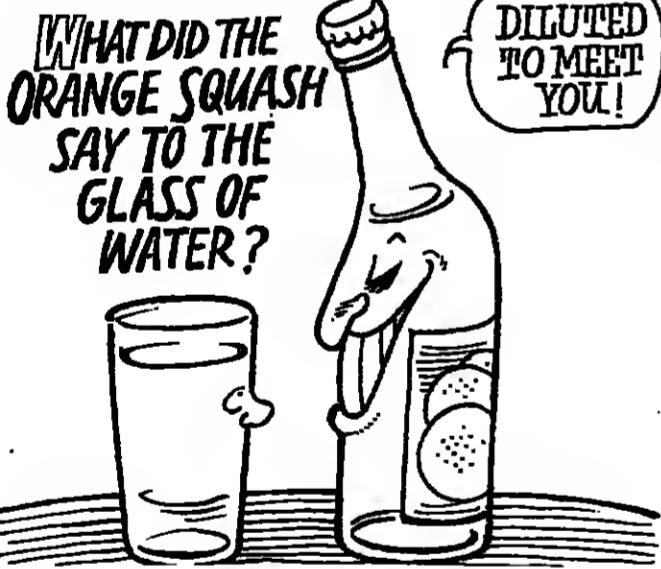


Bernia John turns 6 today April 12

## Questions you'd like to ask

## How can I change the way I feel?

Sometimes it's hard. Often you can change the way you feel by thinking differently. You may feel sad when your parents go out and leave you with a babysitter. You'll probably feel better when you remember that this particular babysitter knows how to do magic tricks and tells great bedtime stories. Sometimes a change of activity can change the way you feel. When you act happy, you're more likely to feel happy.



Indian tribes of the N.W. coast of America used copper shields for money

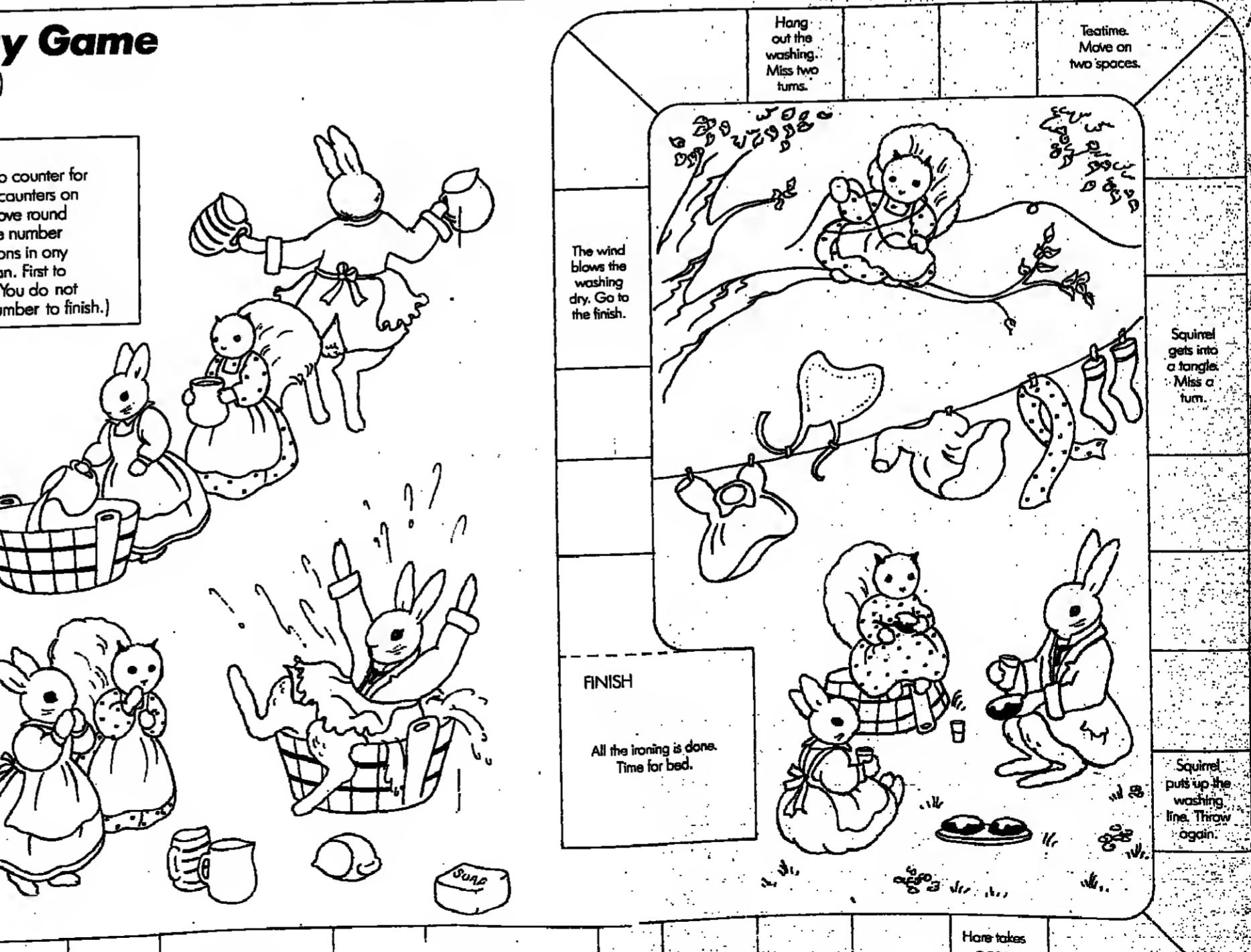
The Ashanti campaign in Africa was the last occasion in which British troops fought in scarlet uniforms.

## The Washday Game

(A game for 2-4 players)

## Rules

You will need a dice, and a counter for each player. Place all the counters on START. Take it in turns to move round the board according to the number thrown. Obey the instructions in any hazard squares you land on. First to the FINISH is the winner. (You do not have to throw the exact number to finish.)



LAUNDRY

Dear Junior Readers,

As the weather gets warmer, air conditioners are turned on to cool down the atmosphere. The risk of catching the very common "beginning-of-summer" cold multiplies.

The best way to try to avoid this cold is to try not to go outside into the heat while your body is entirely adapted to the coolness of the air conditioner. Turn the air conditioner low, or off, about half an hour before you leave. This will prevent your body from shock once you go outside.

If you feel you are starting to catch a cold, (you feel a tickling in your throat, you start to sneeze, you feel tired) try to take as much vitamin C as possible. This you will find in citrus fruits like oranges and lemons, parsley and milk.

Monal.

## Wordsearch

## AMERICAN INDIAN LIFE

ARROW	FARMERS	QUIVER
BEADS	HORSEMANSHIP	SIGN LANGUAGE
BOWS	HUNTER	SKINS
BRAVES	MASKS	SPRER
BUFFALO	MEDICINE MAN	STORYTELLERS
CANOE	MURALS	TALES
CHIEF	PEACE PIPE	TEPEE
CORN	POWWOW	TOBACCO
DANCE	PRAYER	TRIBE
		VISIONS
		WAMPUM
		WIGWAM
		WOOD CARVING
		WOODEN EFFIGIES

S N O I S I V G T S E L A T F  
 W H B Q U I V E R P R A Y E R  
 W O O D C A R V I N G H C B S  
 A ' R O B O W S P B K T E P E E  
 M S C D S P E H E N G O N A V  
 P E K K E C U Q S A L N A D A  
 U M S A A N R R U A B A M S R  
 M A R E T M E G F J F C E M B  
 M N P E A M N F E H R E N P F  
 G . S . R . W . B . A U S . E . C . S . N . I . K . S  
 J H G A L B R N L T I N M C H V  
 L I F N N S R R T A G A I P C  
 \* W P G F W O W W O P R I D C Q  
 B I O C C A B O T W L U E H N  
 S T O R Y T E L L E R S M S K

## The Goops again

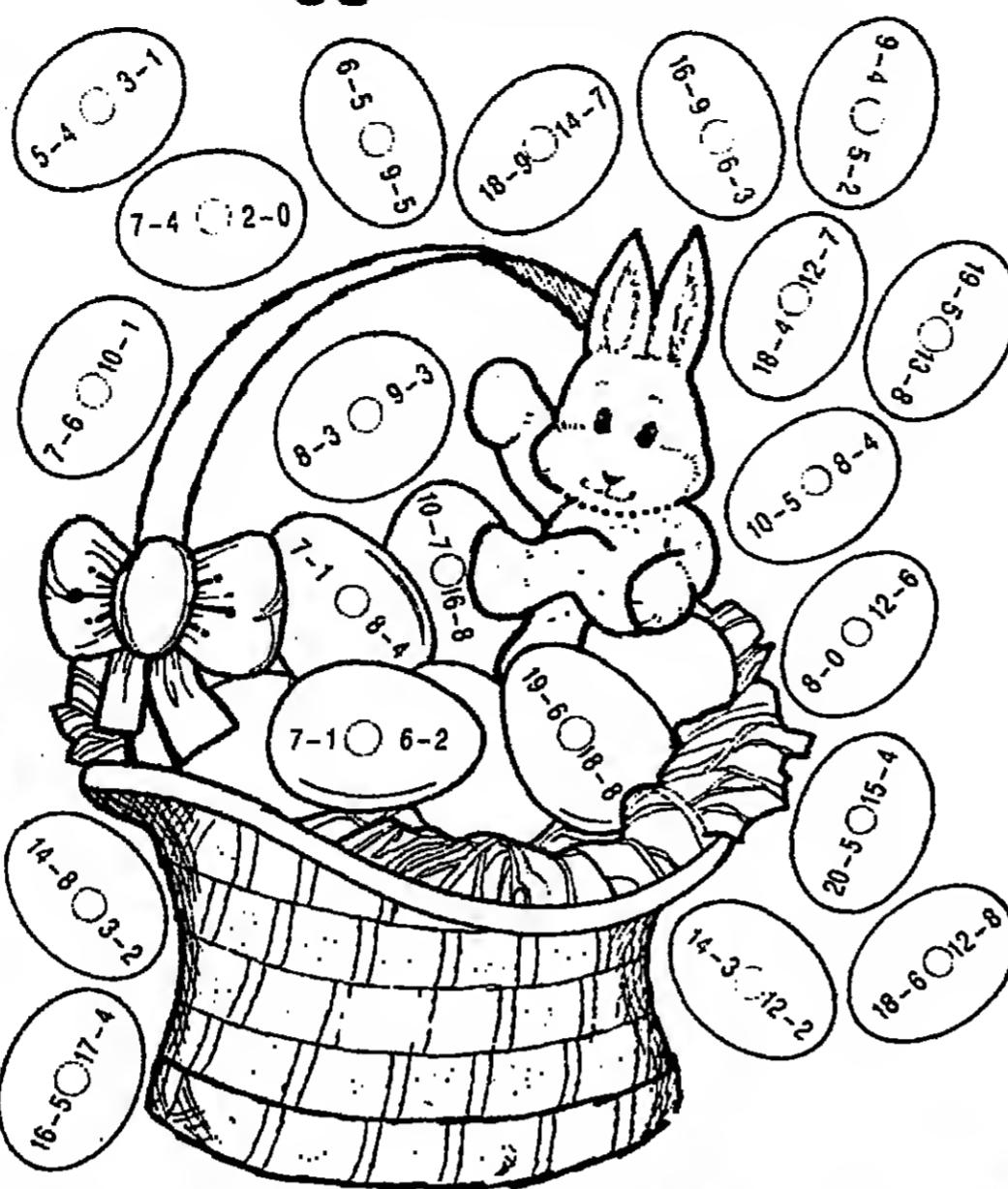


## IMPOSSIBLE!

THERE once was a Goop (it is hard to believe  
 Such unpleasant behavior of you!)  
 Who always was wiping his nose on his sleeve;  
 I hope that this Goop wasn't you!  
 He always was spitting (for fun, I suppose),  
 I couldn't believe it of you!  
 And putting his fingers up into his nose;  
 I KNOW that this Goop was n't you!



## Eggs In A Basket



Find the answer. Write (> for greater than); (< for less than) in the circles. Color the greater than eggs yellow. Color the less than eggs blue.

## Just for laughs!

'My sister's just got engaged to an Irish chap.'  
 'Oh really?'  
 'No — O'Reilly!'

'What are you learning at school now, Brenda?' asked her Gran.

'French, German and we've just started Algebra.'

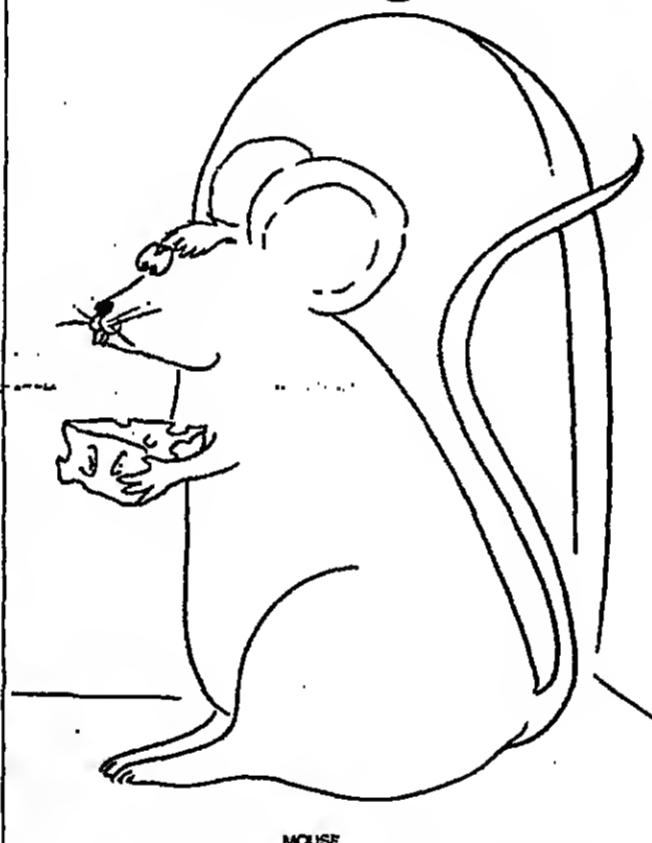
'Really?' said the old lady, impressed. 'I used to learn French and German but I've never heard anyone speak Algebra.'

'Dad, the careers master said that with a mind like mine I should study criminal law.'

'That's wonderful, son. I'm proud of you.'

'He said I had a criminal mind.'

## Colouring time



## Ice Break!

A force that changes the Earth's surface is when water expands (gets bigger) as it turns to ICE. This is called FROST ACTION. Water gets into a rock, freezes, and expands as it turns to ice. The force of the ice pushing against the sides of the rock cracks the rock open more. Over many, many years, a big rock can be broken up this way into tiny, tiny pieces of rock.

?

Will a glass jar filled with water break when the water turns to ice? Check your answer.

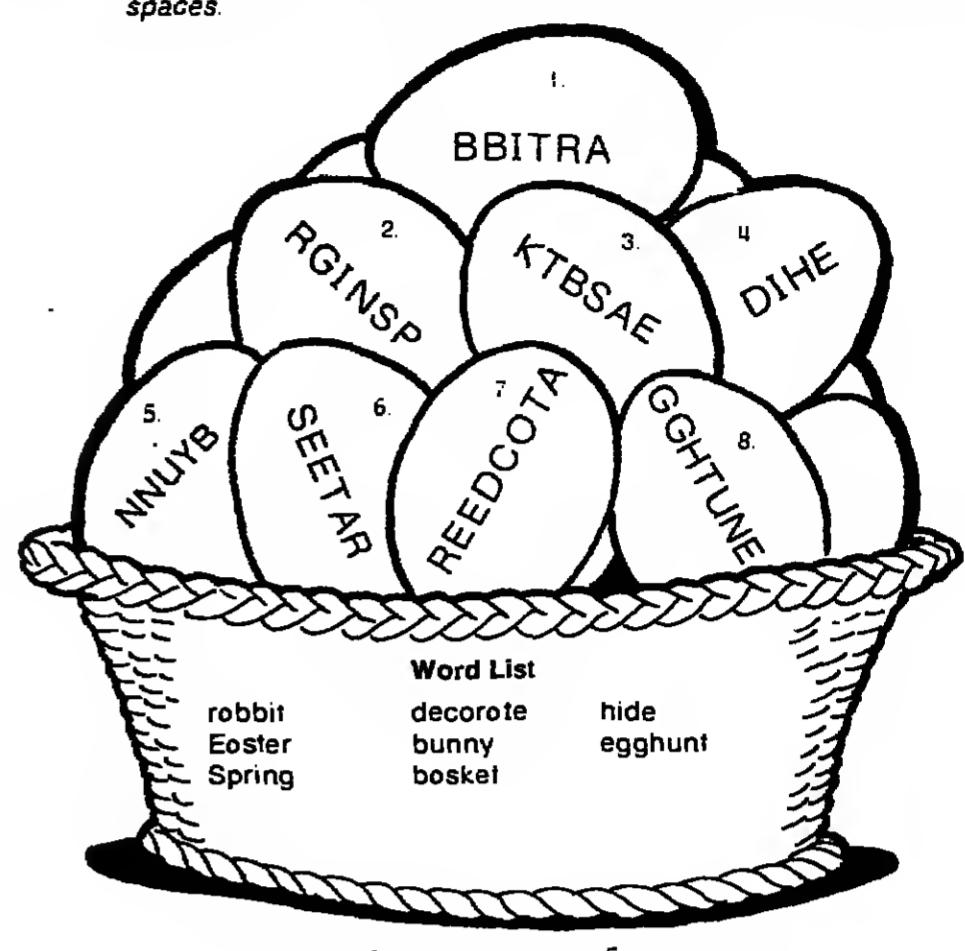
Materials Needed: water, bag, jar with lid

Procedure:

1. Fill a jar to the top with water.
2. Cap the jar tightly.
3. Place the jar inside a bag.
4. Put the bag with the jar in the freezer for one day.
5. Draw what the freezing water does to the glass jar.

## Scrambled Eggs

Directions: Unscramble the words in the Easter Basket. Use the list of words below to help you find the correct words. Write the correct words in the spaces.



Word List  
 rabbit Easter Spring  
 decorate bunny basket  
 hide eggplant

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 5. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_  
 7. \_\_\_\_\_ 8. \_\_\_\_\_

## The Junior Airhostess

By Julie Hodgson

DINA was 14 years old, and was a member of a special team of 'Junior Airhostesses'. Dina really enjoyed the work, with her parents permission, she was allowed to travel just about all over the world. She came from Egypt, where the pyramids were. Not many teenagers had been there.

On one particular journey, Dina had boarded the plane as usual, when the captain announced that there were to be some special passengers on board. Well Dina was puzzled, as she thought that it would just be a routine flight.

After about half an hour the passengers boarded. Dina could not believe her eyes, from the entrance came none other than Tom Cruise followed closely by George Michael, then Michael Jackson, Stevie Wonder, Kylie Minogue and the London Boys. Well you can imagine the



shock on poor Dina's face.

"Oh Boy" she said out loud. Then quickly pulled herself together and set to work, making them as comfortable as she could.

Dina handed them newspapers and magazines and then offered drinks to all. There were many other passengers, but Dina quickly deduced that they were the "Roadies". There were at least fifty extra people.

The flight went without hitch, and Dina and the

two other stewardesses had fun as well as a lot of extra work.

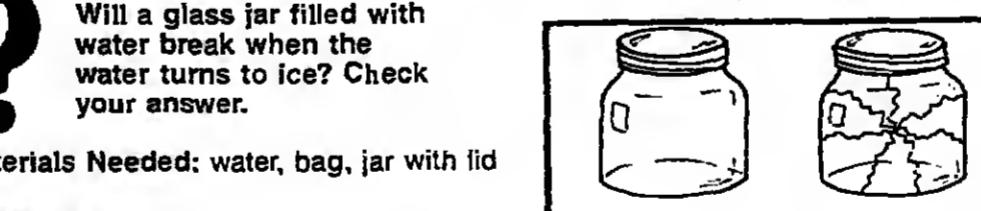
Dina was allowed to talk to the super stars, she got their autographs. She sat beside Tom Cruise and had a chat with him, then near the end of the flight Kylie Minogue started to sing and the rest of them joined in, they were all clapping and cheering each other and were all totally relaxed.

When they landed, each and every one of the stars gave Dina and the others a big 'thankyou kiss' and an autographed photo of themselves.

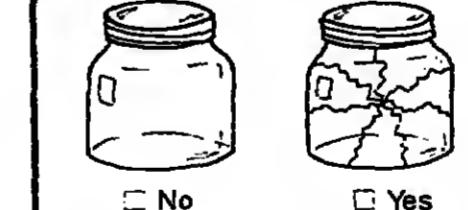
Well she now has two autographs and a photo of each one, what more could one ask for. Dina was absolutely thrilled.

When she got home and told her sister Raya, she could not believe it. Her parents were just as surprised.

Dina fell asleep that night and dreamt, can you guess who of?????



## Hypothesis



## Birthday coupon

Is your birthday to come soon?  
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 Well, now is the chance to let your friends know that it is your birthday!

Or maybe you would like to surprise your best friend, brother or sister by putting their picture in for them.

The details we need are:

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Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (confidential)

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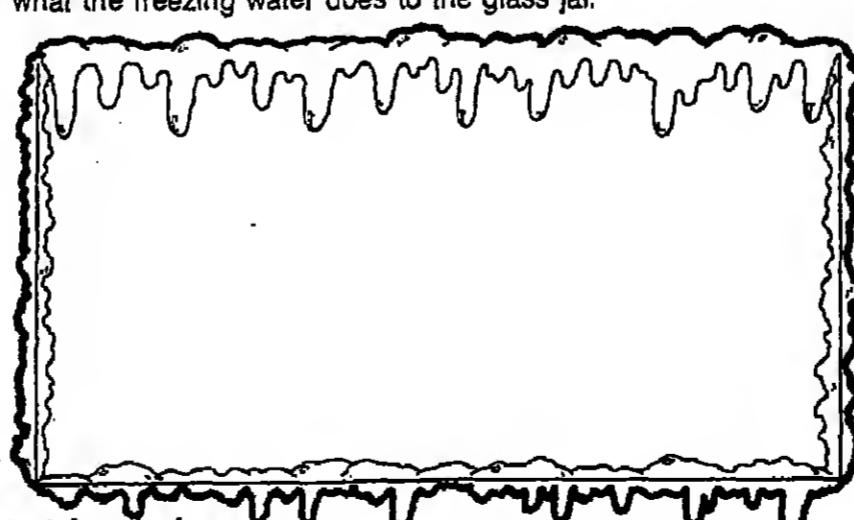
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To avoid belated greetings please send within a week before the special date

## Results and Conclusions

1. Did the glass break? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Is that what you thought would happen? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What did you learn? \_\_\_\_\_



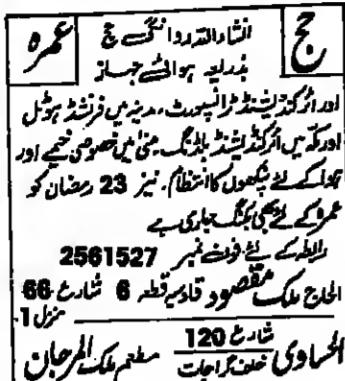
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اساچھے سالانہ کی ترقی کا آغاز کیا گیا ہے  
اوہاں نے اور یونیورسٹی میں ایسٹ مسٹر رجسٹریشن  
جگہ پلازہ پیوریا اسلام آباد فنڈ  
کو پانچ سالہ مقرر کیا ہے۔ دیال میڈیکال سسٹم کے لئے ایمن الکٹریکی  
سے برقیں لیں گے اور کے لئے مرف ۱۸، ۱۰ فنڈ کے سب سے  
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# Barbados radio bans BBC cricket commentator during fourth Test

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, April 11. (Reuters) - Respected BBC cricket commentator Christopher Martin-Jenkins was banned from Barbados radio yesterday.

The ban followed his comments about the controversial dismissal of England batsman Rob Bailey during the fourth Test against West Indies.

Martin-Jenkins enraged West Indies listeners when he said umpire Lloyd Baker appeared to change his mind after being pressurised by West Indies captain Viv Richards.

The dismissal came at a vital time on the fourth day with England struggling to avoid defeat.

The Voice of Barbados radio sta-

tion was inundated with telephone calls saying that Martin-Jenkins had accused Baker of cheating.

Martin-Jenkins continued to report last day's play for British Broadcasting Corporation yesterday, but from a separate commentary box.

In his remarks on Sunday, he said: "It wasn't the mistake which was so

said. It was the fact that Lloyd Baker was pressurised into changing his initial decision. If that's gamesmanship or professionalism, I'm not quite sure what cheating is."

"A very good umpire cracked under pressure and gave an England batsman out at a crucial time against his better judgement because Viv

Richards... led an orchestrated appeal and demonstrations of jubilation."

In a statement yesterday, Martin-

Jenkins offered a partial apology.

"My first interpretation seemed to

me to be confirmed by television replays and other experienced journalists and commentators drew the

same conclusion. If, however, I was

wrong to say umpire Lloyd Baker

changed his mind, I offer him my apologies," he said.

Some British newspaper journalists were less circumspect. Former Test batsman Geoff Boycott wrote in one tabloid paper that Richards "bullied" Barker into giving Bailey out.

"It was a clear case of a home umpire being intimidated into making a blatantly bad decision against a visiting team," he said in the mass circulation Sun.

Solicitor acting for umpire Barker later served a writ on Martin-Jenkins, alleging defamation.

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### NBA games

NEW YORK, April 11. (Reuters) - Results of National Basketball Association (NBA) games played yesterday:

Houston	115	Charlotte	112
Boston	112	New Jersey	96
Milwaukee	130	Orlando	127
Atlanta	123	Philadelphia	111
Portland	106	Minnesota	94
Detroit	106	New York	98
Indiana	107	Washington	105
Utah	114	Seattle	102
Denver	121	Sacramento	113
San Antonio	132	Golden State	122
LA Clippers	98	Dallas	90

### Title defense

LONDON, April 11. (UPI) - WBA middleweight champion Mike McCallum predicted yesterday that his title defense against Londoner Michael Watson at London's Royal Albert Hall Saturday will "possibly be the best fight in the history of boxing here in England."

### First test

BARIS, April 11. (Reuters) - Classic boxer Machiavellian passed his first test of the season as Freddy Head guided the English 2,000 Guineas favourite to a two and a half length victory in the Prix Djebel at Masons' yesterday.

### Stanley Cup

NEW YORK, April 11. (Reuters) - Results of first-round National Hockey League Stanley Cup playoff games played yesterday: North Division: Minnesota North Stars 4, Chicago Black Hawks 0; St. Louis 2-3, Toronto Maple Leafs 4; St. Louis Blues 2-1; Blues lead best-of-seven series 3-1. Smythe Division: Los Angeles Kings 12, Calgary Flames 4; Kings lead best-of-seven series 3-1; Winnipeg Jets 4, Edmonton Oilers 3; Jets lead best-of-seven series 3-1.

### French captain

PARIS, April 11. (Reuters) - Veteran hooker Philippe Diniens will lead France against Romania next month in his last international rugby union appearance, a newspaper report said yesterday.

### Fight cancelled

MILAN, Italy, April 11. (AP) - Italian organisers yesterday announced that the long-postponed World Boxing Organisation heavyweight title fight between Italian titleholder Francesco Damiani and South African challenger Pierre Coetzer, has been cancelled.

### Becker out

BARCELONA, Spain, April 11. (AP) - West German tennis star Boris Becker said yesterday that tendinitis in his left knee had forced him out of the 38th annual Count of Godo tournament here and would sideline him until April 23.

### Cup stadium

MILAN, Italy, April 11. (UPI) - Milan's San Siro stadium, venue for the opening match of the World Cup June 8, will be closed April 25 in order to allow emergency re-rodding of the battered pitch to go ahead, the city council decided yesterday.

### Veterans recalled

ALGIERS, April 11. (Reuters) - African champions Algeria have bowed to the media and brought back the veterans for today's soccer friendly against West Germany. The World Cup qualifiers Sweden, after fierce complaints in the local press that the proposed line-up contained too many inexperienced players, Algeria reformed the side with many of the older players who won the eight African Cup in Algiers last month.

### Werder striker

BREMEN, West Germany, April 11. (Reuters) - Werder Bremen's international soccer striker Karl-Heinz Riedle looks set to join Italian First Division club Lazio for 15 million marks (\$8.5 million).

### Stubborn manager

CAIRO, April 11. (UPI) - Ibrahim El-Gohary, manager of Egypt's national soccer team, is an extremely stubborn man according to his wife. In an interview published yesterday by the leading weekly sports magazine Akhbar El Riadah, El Gohary's wife Samia Sallam said: "My husband is extremely stubborn. Many fans of the national side hope his stubbornness will give the team that extra push needed to pull off a surprise in Italy."

### British soccer

LONDON, April 11. (Reuters) - Results of British soccer matches yesterday:

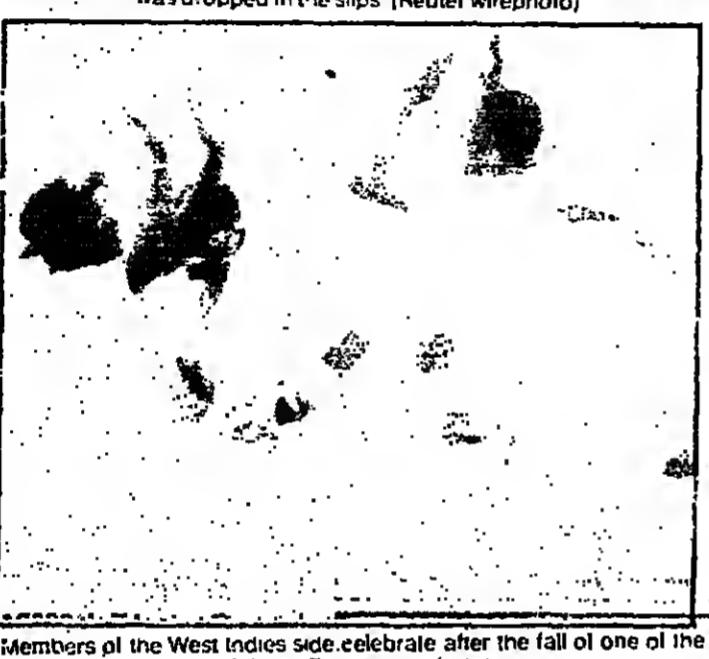
English Division Two			
Barnsley	1	Sunderland	0
Hull	2	Blackburn	0
Ipswich	0	Plymouth	0
Plymouth	4	Leeds	2
Sheffield U	1	Watford	0
Stoke	1	QPR	2
Swindon	5	Brighton	1
Wolves	1	Leicester	2
England Division Three	1		
Bristol C	4	Crewe	1
Carly	0	Blackpool	0
Fulham	0	Birmingham	0
Huddersfield	1	Brentford	0
Notts County	3	Brunswick	0
Preston	4	Northampton	0
Reading	2	Manfield	0
Walsall	2	Wigan	0
England Division Four	1	Bolton	1
Burton	0	Southend	0
Cambridge U	2	Harlepool	3
Carlisle	1	Aldershot	3
Chesterfield	2	Scarborough	2
Colchester	1	Exeter	1
Grimbsy	1	Leeds	0
Rochdale	0	Gillingham	0
Torquay	0	Wrexham	0
York	0	Scunthorpe	0
Scottish Division Two	1		
Dumbarton	1	Stranraer	1

# W. Indies win 4th Test

## Ambrose slaughters Lamb & Co.



Ambrose raises his arms in disgust after a ball knocked by Lamb right was dropped in the slips. (Reuters wirephoto)



Members of the West Indies side celebrate after the fall of one of the wickets. (Reuters wirephoto)

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, April 11. (Reuters) - West Indies fast bowler Curtly Ambrose sent England crashing to defeat in the fourth cricket Test yesterday to square the series with one match remaining.

Ambrose returned his best Test figures of eight for 45, including five wickets in only 28 balls, to give the hosts victory by a healthy 164-run margin and revenge for their sensational defeat in the opening Test.

Victory arrived in the eighth of the last 20 overs with shadows lengthening around Kensington Oval.

When last man Devon Malcolm fell the ground erupted into a giant carnival as hundreds of delighted home supporters carried their heroes off.

England battled bravely during the last day in a vain bid to salvage a draw. Nightwatchman Jack Russell defied the home attack for more than five hours for 55 runs while Robin Smith finished 40 not out after a three and a half hour struggle.

Russell's dismissal sparked England's downfall after Ambrose shattered his stumps with an unplayable shooter.

Smith, who had helped Russell put on 69, could only watch from the other end as Nasar Hussain, David Capel and Phillip DeFreitas were all trapped leg before by Ambrose in four fiery overs.

The decision against DeFreitas looked a poor one. The Dominica-born all-rounder shook his head in disbelief, clearly believing he had managed an inside edge before the ball rattled his pad.

England had resumed at 15 for three and did not lose a wicket until 26 minutes before lunch, when Alec Stewart was caught at first slip off Ambrose for 37. More importantly, he frustrated the West Indies for 138 minutes.

### Scoreboard

WEST INDIES first innings: 446-7; Best 164 v. R. Richards 70; ENGLAND first innings: 358-7; Lamb 119, R. Smith 62; Bishop four for 70; WEST INDIES second innings: 267-8; eight downed 1D. Haynes 109, G. Small four for 74;

ENGLAND second innings: 267-10; Best 15 for 101; A. Stewart, R. Richards, B. Ambrose, 37; W. Larmer, D. Capel, B. Ambrose, 6; R. Bailey, C. Devon, B. Ambrose, 6; G. Small, 4; B. Ambrose, 55; J. Russell, B. Ambrose, 12; A. Lamb, D. Capel, B. Ambrose, 6; R. Smith, 4; G. Small, 0; N. Hussain, 109, B. Ambrose, 0; D. Capel, 109, B. Ambrose, 0; P. DeFreitas, 109, B. Ambrose, 0; D. Malcolm, 109, B. Ambrose, 0; E. Hayes, 109, B. Ambrose, 0; T. Taylor, 109, B. Ambrose, 0; Falalokwiter, 1-1-2-103-7; 5-7-5-97-6-165-7-173-8-181-9-181.

BOWLING: Bishop, 20-7-40-1; Ambrose, 22-4-10-45-8; Marshall, 18-8-3-0; Moliney, 9-3-4-1; Richards, 10-5-11-0; Richardson, 2-1-3-1.

RESULT: West Indies won by 164 runs. First Test: Kingston, Jamaica — Second Test: Georgetown, Guyana — abandoned rain. Third Test: Port of Spain, Trinidad — drawn.

### Faldo wants to reward himself

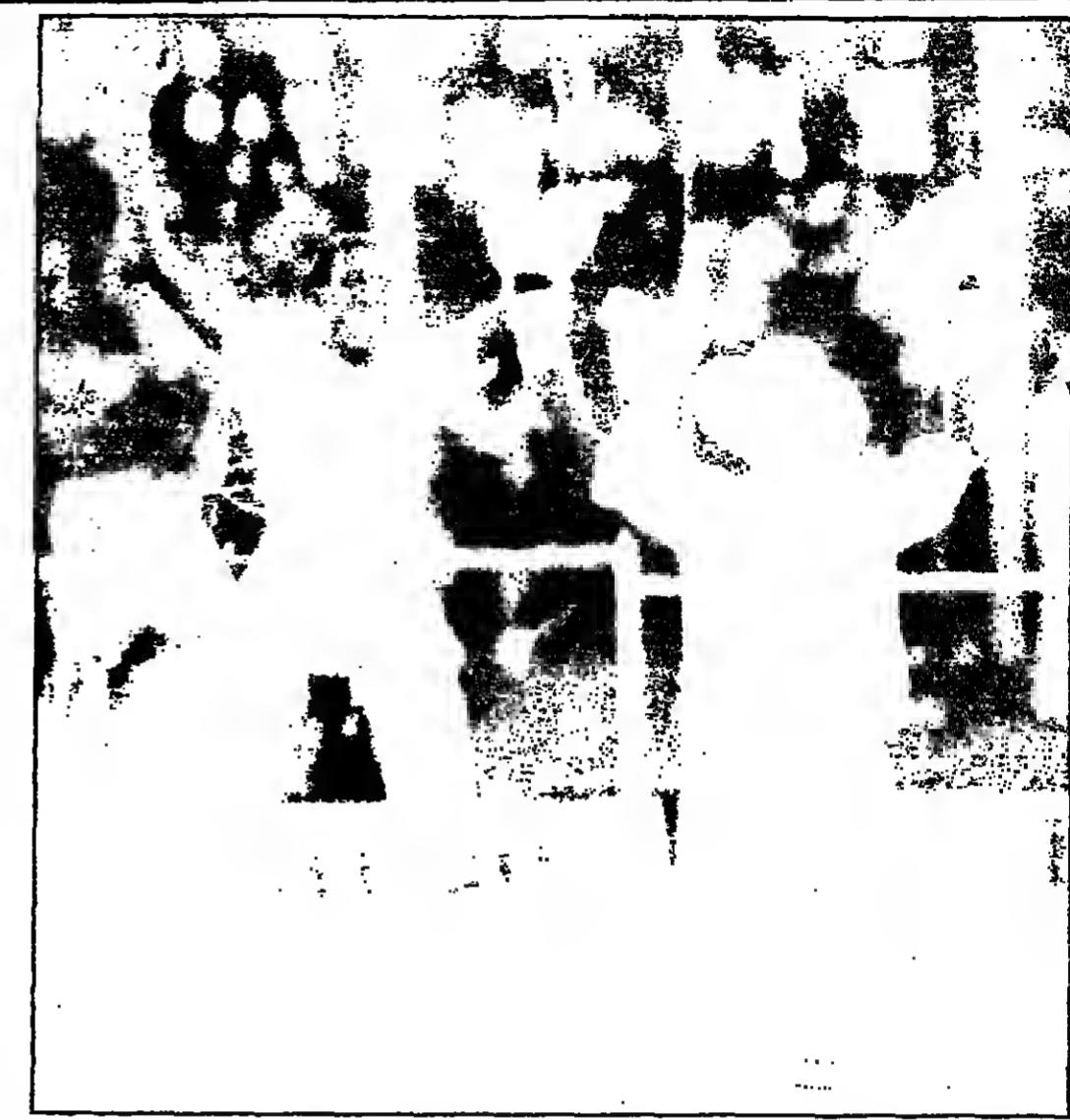
HILTON HEAD ISLAND, South Carolina, April 11. (Reuters) - Now that he has won his second straight Masters, Nick Faldo figures it's time to treat himself to something special.

"I'm a real spender," Faldo said yesterday. "I got a pair of fancy sunglasses after last year's Masters. I think I might do better than that this year."

"I think I might treat myself to a painting."

Faldo even has an artist in mind: Leroy Neiman. Neiman was at Augusta National during the Masters, which Faldo won with a par on No. 11 in a sudden-death playoff with Raymond Floyd.

"I have some of his work," Faldo said. "I fancy him. I met him a couple of years ago."



Curtly Ambrose (centre) jumps in joy after getting the last wicket of Malcolm. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Ferrari manager denies trying to sign Senna

MARANELLO, Italy, April 11. (Reuters) - Ferrari Formula One team manager Cesare Fiorio denied yesterday that he had tried to sign McLaren's Ayrton Senna.

But he stopped short of saying that he did not want to sign the Brazilian.

"No contact. No comment," Ferrari spokesman Franzen Gozzi quoted Fiorio as saying.

Asked by a television interviewer on Monday night whether he wanted to sign Senna next year, Fiorio answered: "I'm happy with Prost and Mansell."

Fiorio said both world champion Alain Prost of France and Britain Nigel Mansell had an option for another year on their contracts. He said he hoped this was exercised.

Prost, who joined Ferrari this year after a troubled year at McLaren alongside Senna, the 1988 champion, told reporters last week that he saw no possibility of teaming up with the Brazilian again.

"I don't see how one could think again of a Prost-Senna team," Prost said.

Ferrari's 20 punches into Pohan.

Muangchai floored Pohan in the third round with his right hook.

"I could not knock him out because my left fist is still injured but I can ensure you that I will do it in the next fight," Muangchai said after the bout.

Judge John Wheeler of Australia gave Muangchai 117-106. Mohamad Binsyuk of Indonesia scored the fight 116-113, and Vichai Srichumrata of Thailand 118-112.

Muangchai won the IBF title from Filipino Tracy Macalos last year.

## Flying doctor set for Kenya's Safari Rally

NAIROBI, April 11. (UPI) - Three hundred and sixty days of the year, Jim Heather-Hayes is spent on saving other people's lives. But for the other five months, he cheerfully sets out to endanger his own by driving cars at speeds of up to 130 mph (210 kph) over the roughest, most obstacle-ridden and sometimes wettest professional motorsport course in the world, in Kenya's Maribor Safari Rally, which started today.

## Lendl and Edberg advance

TOKYO, April 11. (AP): Top-seed Ivan Lendl, playing just 20 hours after arriving in Tokyo, and second-seeded Stefan Edberg today won their singles matches easily to advance to the third round of the \$1.15 million Japan Open tennis tournament.

Lendl, the world's top-ranked player, beat Shuzo Matsuka, Japan's No. 1 player, 6-4, 6-2 on the hard court of Tokyo's Ariake Colosseum.

Sweden's Edberg, ranked second in the world, overwhelmed American Leif Shiras 6-0, 6-2 in their second-round match.

In other second-round matches in men's singles, third-seeded Brad Gilbert beat US compatriot Brad Pearce 1-6, 6-1, 6-0; fourth-seeded Aaron Krickstein beat American compatriot David Pate 6-4, 7-6 (7-4), and Patrick McEnroe, the younger brother of John McEnroe, beat fellow American Paul Chamberlain 3-6, 6-3, 7-5.

In the women's second-round matches, top-seeded Catarina Lindqvist of Sweden beat Sabine Appelmann of Belgium 7-5, 6-2 and Japan's Kumiko Okamoto upset fourth-seeded Betsy Nagelsen of the United States 6-1, 6-2.

Matsuoka and Lendl each kept service through the eighth game. Lendl won love-games in the fourth and eighth. He also broke Matsuoka in the ninth, as the Japanese player, trailing 15-30, committed an unforced error with a long forehand.

Lendl broke the third game after two deuces in the second set, broke the seventh game.

Matsuoka and Lendl each hit 60 per cent of their first serves, but Matsuoka committed 22 unforced errors against 11 for Lendl.

"Since I met him four years ago, he has improved a lot," Lendl said of his opponent after the match.

Edberg quickly broke the first game of the first set without losing a point. He also won love games in the fourth and sixth of the first set and lost only four points.

### Players warned

RIO DE JANEIRO, April 11. (AP): Coach Sébastien Lazaro of Brazil's national soccer team warned that players who fail to report for training camp on schedule could be left out of the World Cup in Italy.

The warning came in response to an impending boycott by foreign and local clubs that have balked at releasing their Brazilian stars.

### New UAE coach

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates, April 11. (AP): Brazil's Carlos Alberto Parreira officially took over the reins of the United Arab Emirates national team yesterday and promptly promised he will tell his players "to enjoy themselves at the World Cup finals" in Italy.

Parreira is the third coach in three months since first Mario Zagalo, also a Brazilian, and Bernard Blaut, a Pole, were asked to leave the job.

### India Festival tournament

THE India Festival organising committee has announced that a volleyball tournament will be held soon in which 10 teams will be taking part. The following teams have provisionally registered for taking part in the tournament.

1. Cremenco (MAV); 2. Cremenco Club; 3. Century; 4. Arts Circle (A&B); 5. Blue Star team; 6. Sports Lovers (A&B); 7. Keral Sports (A&B).

The finals will be held on April 24 at 8.00 pm. The representatives (coach/manager) of all teams are requested to attend a briefing at IAC hall today at 8.00 pm with complete list of players and copies of Civil ID/passport.

### Lanka Colts brush aside Hawks

LANKA COLTS (Trico) comfortably disposed of Hawks by 8 wickets in the Hubara Knockout Cup 'B' cricket tournament first quarterfinal played at Ahmadi last Friday morning.

Electing to bat, the Hawks innings was given a boost by openers Chris Michael and Shantha who put on 60 runs for the first wicket. A disciplined knock of 33 runs from Chris Michael, an adventurous 25 from Arun Nair and a late surge from Darryl and Paul pushed the Hawks total to 148 for 9 wickets in 30 overs.

Prominent amongst the Colts bowlers was the left-armist Rohan Peiris who bowled a niggling line and length to wipe out the cream of the Hawks batting to claim four wickets for 30 in his quota of 8 overs. The experienced Ralph with two wickets and Oliver and Hiran with a wicket each chipped in with



Graf: 100 per cent fit again

## Bassett eliminates Cecchini

# Graf routs Langrova on return

AMELIA ISLAND, Fla., April 11. (Reuters): Top-ranked Steffi Graf of West Germany triumphantly returned to the women's tennis Tour yesterday and took only 45 minutes to beat Petra Langrova of Czechoslovakia 6-1, 6-0 at the \$350,000 Amelia Island Women's Open tennis tournament.

Graf, who fractured her thumb last February in a skiing accident, said she was pleased with her performance.

"It was the perfect first match for me," said Graf, who was to play 13th-seeded Andrea Temesvari of Hungary today.

"I played rather well and didn't have any problems. I don't feel like I'm behind at all. I played as I normally do," Graf said.

"It took me a few days to hit my first backhand, a few days to hit my first overhead," said Graf, who had the cast removed from her hand a month ago.

"But there was always a little something to be happy about. I

was just glad to be back playing. I am 100 percent now. If I wasn't I wouldn't be here at this tournament," said Graf who has won 53 consecutive matches, 21 behind Martina Navratilova's record of 74 straight.

"I just didn't think I could win," said Langrova, ranked 65th in the world. "She's so good and so fast. Even coming back from the injury, I knew Steffi was going to be very tough."

Carling Bassett-Seguso of Canada registered the day's biggest upset, eliminating seventh-seeded Sandra Cecchini of Italy 6-4, 3-6, 6-4.

Bassett, ranked 620th after playing sparingly the past two years, was known as a persistent baseliner during her early career, when she rose to eighth-ranked in the world.

Bassett consistently beat Cecchini from the net, employing a successful "serve-and-volley" strategy.

"This really doesn't surprise

me because I had been practicing pretty well," Bassett said. "Mentally, I'm a little tired, but I'm feeling fine physically. I need to come to the net more, kind of like I did today, because I'm not willing to stay out there for eight hours anymore."

After Bassett went up two breaks at 3-0 in the third set, Cecchini battled back to take a 4-3 lead. But Bassett broke in the ninth game, then held to close out the match.

"It's tough for me to concentrate for three sets," Cecchini said. "I played bad the whole match. There's no confidence in my game right now."

In another upset, Angeliki Kanellopoulou of Greece rebounded from a disastrous first set and beat ninth-seeded Leila Meskhi of the Soviet Union 0-6, 7-6 (7-5), 6-4. Meskhi had a 5-3 lead in the second-set tiebreak, but Kanellopoulou rallied to win the set and the match.

## Navratilova top-ranked in Italian Open

ROME, April 11. (Reuters): Martina Navratilova, twice runner-up, is the top-ranked woman in next month's Italian Open tennis tournament.

Navratilova, 33, who was on the verge of retiring last year, has rediscovered her enthusiasm for the game and won three out of the four tournaments she has entered in 1990.

On Sunday she defeated 14-year-old fellow-American Jennifer Capriati in the final of the Hilti Head clay court championship.

Navratilova lost the 1974 and 1975 Italian finals to times w

winner Chris Evert.

Organisers said yesterday that Capriati, twice a finalist in just three tournaments since turning professional last month, had also entered along with Argentine Gabriela Sabatini, champion for the past two years.

Brazilian midfielder Alemao, reportedly hit in the head by a coin hurled by Atalanta fans, left the field before the end of last Sunday's match in Bergamo, which ended in a scoreless draw.

Napoli has demanded that it be awarded a 2-0 victory in line with League rules punishing the home team for misbehaviour of its fans.

Brasil's world number one Steffi Graf, the 1987 champion who has been injured, will not take part.

The men's tournament has attracted John McEnroe and fellow American Michael Chang, the French Open champion, plus 1987 winner Mats Wilander of Sweden.

## Romania's campaign fuelled by freedom

BUCHAREST, April 11. (Reuters): Romania's World Cup campaign may be spearheaded by the skills of five top players, but it will be fuelled by an even bigger influence — the intoxicating energy of freedom.

National coach Emerich Jenei selected Gheorghe Ragi, Miodrag Belodoci, Ovidiu Sabau, Gheorghe Popescu and Marius Lacatus as potential men to watch in Italy, but stressed the raw emotion of post-revolutionary fervour would be just as a big a star.

Free from the tyrannical rule of dictator Nicolae Ceausescu in last December's bloody revolution, the Romanians will play with a distinct sense of new purpose.

"My players will be performing with smiles on their faces for the first time," Jenei said in an interview at his shabby sports ministry office in central Bucharest.

"A new sense of freedom brought about by the revolution has already left an imprint on the players."

"You can see it in the way they move, the way they talk — and more importantly in the way they are playing."

Romanian soccer before the revolution has been described by new sports minister Mircea Angelescu as "a compensation of all the evils of the Ceausescu regime."

Angelescu said the game had been racked with the faking of results, threats to referees, players and officials and feuds between the top clubs who has powerful Communist Party backers determined to see their club at the top of the League.

Jenei, who guided Steaua Bucharest to European Cup triumph in 1986, was sacked several times for standing up to club officials, only to be taken on again.

Now 53 and looking every bit the prosperous Western manager in well-cut suit and silk tie, Jenei is an added motive for World Cup success — to be plans to retire after the final.

"Like everyone else who has seen the Romanians in action in recent years, Janei identified Ragi as the team's biggest star and potential match-winner."

At 25, he has made 54 appearances for Romania and is currently being courted by European Cup holders AC Milan who have seen him for some time as a potential replacement for injury-hit Dutchman Ruud Gullit.

Hagi, a skillful goalscorer creative player, has been dubbed the "Maradona of the Carpathians" for his dynamic style. He has been described as the finest Romanian player of all time and is sure to be a major transfer target for the top West European clubs after the Italy final.

Belodoci, a central defender who defected before the revolution and played for Red Star Belgrade, was a key member of the two Steaua sides which reached the European Cup final in 1986 and 1989.

His understanding with Hagi at club level could be crucial in Italy, be, can recover the scoring form which established him as one of the fastest and most dangerous strikers in Europe during the late 1980s.

Lacatus, a tough goallkeeping

player, has made 31 appearances for Romania and scored some spe

THE TRAFFIC PROBLEM WAS MAN MADE  
AND ITS UP TO US TO SOLVE IT

A Traffic Issue

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ARAB TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, APRIL 12-13, 1990



Rohan Peiris

both Chris and Ramzaan in a belligerent mood the scoring rate was in top gear averaging 9 runs per over at times.

With the total on 74, Ramzaan was bowled by Jackson off an inside edge for a quick fire 33 which included 3 well-timed fours and an effortless six off Sohail. An entertaining 80-run partnership between Chris and Senaka, who both tore into the Hawks attack, took the Colts home with a victory total of 134 for 2 in just 18.4 overs.

Senaka was full of poise in his unbeaten knock of 34 which included 4 hits to the fence, while Chris Amarasekera was merciless at the other end in an unbeaten flamboyant knock of 63, which included 4 towering sixes and 4 "beefy" boundaries.

The Colts are now scheduled to meet Casuals in the first semifinal tomorrow.